



October 2023

THE BIG ISLAND HAMGRAM

The newsletter of the Big Island Amateur Radio Club

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Alan Okinaka,
KH6ATU

Picking the right tool for the job

In planning for a high school class reunion, I brought up the need for walkie-talkies. Several planning committee members gave me a somewhat incredulous stare and followed with, "Eh, we all got cellphones!"

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CQ, CQ, CQ: World's biggest radio contest Oct. 28 at Hilo park

By Joseph Rosenbaum,
WH6JOE

Are you ready for the biggest and most exciting amateur radio contest of the year?



The CQ World Wide SSB DX Contest (cqww.com) is coming soon, and we want you to join us for a fun and challenging day of radio

activity.

The CQWW is the largest amateur radio competition in the world, with over 35,000 participants from all over the globe. The objective is to contact as many other amateurs in as many different CQ zones and

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Photo by David Miller, KH6CZ
Joseph Rosenbaum, WH6JOE, demonstrates how to use a radio at the EB de Silva School Science Night on Sept. 6.

N0CAN talks disaster response at club's September meeting

Now is always the best time to respond to a disaster of any sort.

Now, when there's no hint on the horizon that something bad is coming down the pike.

Now, when individuals and assorted groupings of concerned folks have the time to think, analyze, prepare and practice a step-by-step plan to follow in a crisis.

That was the basic message from former BIARC President Bill Hanson, N0CAN, at the Sept. 10 BIARC meeting at Kamana Senior Center and via Zoom. He's the administrative officer at the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency.

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Club crew keeps spreading the word on 'Science Night' circuit

BIARC volunteers, and an attentive audience of students and parents, had a good time getting in touch with the awesomeness of amateur radio at the latest "Science Night" event in Hilo, reports David Miller, KH6CZ, chair of the BIARC Public Service Communication Committee.

"Just wanted to thank you for coming out to EB de Silva School's Science Night. You made it an awesome night for all the students and families that attended. We received great feedback from the faculty! Hope to see you all at our future Science Night events," reported Jadee Takayesu, educational outreach coordinator for the Hawaii Science and Technology Museum (hawaiisciencemuseum.org).

The educational non-profit, federally recognized 501(c)(3) public charity is dedicated to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education on the Island of Hawaii

"Many presenting groups were at the Sept. 6 event, and we represented the ham radio community," said David, noting that BIARC and other community participants were featured in a mahalo article in the school's newsletter.

"The Science Night events are a good venue where we connect well with teachers and parents," said David. "However, there is a need for

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CQ, CQ, CQ — *From previous page*

countries as possible.

There will be only six bands allowed: 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21 and 28 MHz. Observance of established band plans is strongly encouraged.

The contest runs for 48 hours, starting at 0000 UTC on Saturday, Oct. 28, and ending at 2359 UTC on Sunday, Oct. 29.

You can find the complete rules and more information on the official website. We will be there on Saturday, Oct. 28, starting about 8 am HST.

We will be entering as class Multi-two: A maximum of two transmitted signals may be used at any time, and they must be on two different bands. The log must indicate which station/signal made each QSO.

Each station/signal may make a maximum of 8 band changes in any clock hour (00 through 59

minutes). Total output power must not exceed 1500 watts on any band at any time.

BIARC will be hosting this outing at the Kuhio Kala-niana'ole Park in Hilo, Hawaii. All are welcome to join us, whether you want to operate, log, or just socialize.

We will be on the air from Saturday morning until early evening. Pizza and refreshments will be provided and everybody is invited to bring any food or drinks (non-alcoholic) they like.

This is a great opportunity to experience the thrill of contesting, improve your operating skills, make new friends on the air and help promote amateur radio in our community. We hope to see you at the park for the CQWW SSB contest.

Grid Madness revival a big hit on Sept. 17

Log sheets are still being tallied, but the ratings are in: Grid Madness '23 was a big success. Lots of contacts were made, and lots of fun was had on Sunday, Sept. 17, during the rebirth of a favorite yearly event.

Mel Uchida, KH6EKD, was the catalyst for the regeneration of the popular statewide contest.

"We received 32 log entries -- although there were many more participants -- and all comments were positive," reported Mel. "We are in the process of tallying the log sheets to determine the lucky winners.

"With the collaboration of



Mel Uchida, KH6EKD, discusses Grid Madness at Sept. 10 meeting.

dedicated fellow hams, we were able to pull together this year's event. If we can get enough hands-on support, we'll try again next year," said Mel.

He advises interested hams to stand by for a new Grid Madness mail group at groups.io to "streamline the communications between contestants."

Check out <https://gridmadness.blogspot.com/p/home.html>



Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI, mans the mic during discussion following talk by Bill Hanson, N0CAN, far right.



Jim Huntley, WH6FQI, introduces members to the club's new 'shack in the box.'

September meeting — *From previous page*

Bill took us on a walk down "memory lane" as he gave an overview of national, state and Hawaii Island efforts in developing programs, recruiting and training volunteers from all walks of life to be ready to help their communities when needed.

Professional first-responders – no matter how hard they try – just can't reach everyone. But well-thought-out lay disaster response can help save the day.

That's why FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, more than a decade ago adopted a "whole community approach" for emergency response.

Bill likened this to the traditional

Hawaiian ahupua'a land division system in Hawaii, where vertical strips of land from mountains to the ocean were delineated, with communities at various elevations providing resources to others within the ahupua'a.

Food, materials and other elements necessary for life were shared by islanders living at the various elevations. And if a crisis affected one area, other communities would step in to help their neighbors.

Bill cited some of the ongoing efforts, including Community Emergency Response Teams under FEMA; Vibrant Hawaii; Hawaii County Project 360. And he praised "The Hub" in Pahoa which was created by Puna residents to help the community following devastating lava flows which obliterated neighborhoods,

roads and infrastructure in 2018.

Civil Defense may not be able to get to "the last person, the last house on the last block," he said. "But you can."

"I don't have all of the answers," he said. "But together, we can."

And work on this goal continues, with many groups and individuals involved.

Later in the meeting, Mel Uchida, KH6EKD, encouraged all licensed radio operators to participate in the Sept. 17 Grid Madness contest.

Jim Huntley, WH6FQI, introduced members to the club's new "shack in the box" radio and antenna purchased with proceeds from the club's recent silent auction of donated ham equipment.

BIARC is now the proud owner of a club radio: a brand new Yaesu FT-991A and ATAS-120 screwdriver antenna. This portable rig covers all bands.

BIG ISLAND MONTHLY SIREN NET, October 2, 2023

Although we encountered some server issues, we still managed to have a great net as fearless Joe WH6JOE (backup NCS) kept us in line!

I was unable to isolate Big Island from HMASN AllStar nor log the Siren Net using the live roster. But was so glad when Dave AH6OD stepped in to manually link the repeaters and simplex nodes up.

We had 28 check-ins and 29 siren status reports.

Two sirens were not working: Ainaloa and Honuapo.

Two ran for 30 seconds: Laupahoehoe Lookout and Waa Waa, which William NH6ET noted as having unusually low audio.

Mahalo to everyone who participated, and especially to those moving big boulders behind the scenes!

73 es much aloha,
Bev
KH7LM



Multifaceted menu of presentations on tap for Oct. 8 BIARC meeting

President Alan Okinaka, KH6ATU, announces that the BIARC membership meeting program on October 8 will include the following presentations:

1. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Simulated Emergency Test (SET): Tony Kitchen will be describing the upcoming test on October 14, emphasizing the importance of this exercise for emergency communications.
2. CW World Wide DX Contest: Joseph Rosenbaum will be describing the rules for this contest and encourage strong participation by ham radio operators.
3. Hawaii Science and Technology Museum: David Miller will describe BIARC's participation in the Museum's Science Night activity at Hilo Union and EB deSilva Elementary School, and BIARC's near-future participation at Waiakeawaena and Waiakea Elementary Schools.
4. BIARC History: Bob Schneider will take us on a stroll down memory lane describing the colorful history of the Big Island Amateur Radio Club.

See Page 6 for monthly meeting details and Zoom link.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

From Page 1

Determined, I explained why these simple devices would enhance a planned tour of six places on Maui, as we travelled in four different vehicles.

The first thing I explained was how we could all be virtually in one big vehicle as we drove through the countryside, enjoying stories from classmates in any vehicle reminiscing about their youthful excursions and experiences.

Then I explained how -- if one or more vehicles got separated and became lost -- we could quickly communicate the situation and get them unlost.

So, we got the walkie-talkies with a range of five miles, that came with 22 FRS (Family Radio Services) channels. I believe all walkie talkies come with these 22 channels. I was very surprised how inexpensive they were. I think we paid about ten dollars for each radio.

And, as I had described to the committee, classmates from different cars grabbed the radios and shared their stories as we drove through Makawao, Kula, Pu'unene, Kahului, Kihei, and 'Iao Valley.

So many wonderful stories were shared.

And believe it or not, when we were all supposed to turn down into this easy to miss road in Kula, one of the drivers missed the road and didn't know where they were.

Within seconds, a help call was sent out and we quickly directed them back to the road.

Cell service is sketchy in that area, so they could have been miles away before communicating their situation without the walkie-talkie.

I thought of how this experience brings out the advantages of amateur radio.

Similar to the days when we had party-line telephone service, we share common frequencies. However, with an able network controller, we share stories and our daily experiences and tasks.

As I said in my previous article, the morning nets at 8 am on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, provide an opportunity to make sure your radio equipment is working, but in addition, it also gives us a chance to create a community. We may never meet someone on the net, just knowing their call signs, but the only thing missing is what they look like.

Then there are the situations we hope will never happen. A vehicle getting lost on my reunion excursion is not an emergency, but it does demonstrate the need for immediate and widespread communications when an emergency occurs and when traditional public communication services cease to exist.

The recent Lahaina disaster on Maui gave us a wakeup call on this situation. The amateur radio system and networks are vital to providing immediate and widespread communications.

This article was started talking about walkie-talkies, and lately I have been wondering how this inexpensive device could be used by everyone for immediate and widespread communications, and maybe augmenting the amateur radio network.

Get set for SET

All hams invited to join in Oct. 14 Big Island portion of nationwide exercise

Please join us and participate in the Big Island's portion of Nationwide 2023 ARRL/ARES SET activity.

All Big Island licensed operators are invited to participate in the Hawaii ARES SET, on **Saturday, October 14th from 9:00 AM until Noon.**

This year we will be asking Big Island stations to transmit/relay two messages. The messages may be transmitted either directly via Winlink or via relay to a hub which will retransmit the message via Winlink.

The messages will be:

- 1) A Health and Welfare Sample Message directed to an off island friend or family member.
- 2) A Weather Report which will be received by State ARES and used as a demonstration of our capabilities to the National Weather Service. (Skywarn Spotter Program)

Please sign up for this event by completing the Google form available under the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/SETBI2023>.

Additional information will be sent via Email and posted on the <https://hawaiiares.net> website. Thank you in advance for your participation.

73,
Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI
ARRL/ARES Pacific Section
Assistant Section Emergency
Coordinator

SET severe weather scenario from AH6T



Joseph Tabrah
AH6T

Joseph Tabrah
AH6T

Have questions or
need help preparing
for the SET?

Drop me an email at

SW@HawaiiARES.info

Keep Notes for
Oct 14, 2023
08 08:00-14:00
HST SET HERE

Scenario

Severe weather generated from a hurricane in close proximity to all Hawaiian Islands has taken down Internet and phone lines. To help forecast severe weather that potentially represents danger to life and property, the National Weather Service forecast office would like reports from registered Hawaii SkyWarn spotters on rainfall, wind direction and speed, flooding from rainfall or storm surge, and any other severe weather conditions observed in their area. In this SET the reports are in digital format using a Winlink template designed for this SET.

Action Required:

Participating licensed amateur radio operators, and especially Skywarn spotters, are encouraged to prepare and send a report via simplex Winlink to the NWS Skywarn station using the Winlink Hurricane Report Template either directly from Winlink Express or by voice with the help of an NCS station.

- The Winlink Hurricane Report template should be addressed to AH6T and AH6T should be entered in the call sign box on the P2P session window.
- If you are a registered Skywarn Spotter please indicate your Skywarn Spotter number after your name on the template.
- Include your latitude and longitude coordinates on the form to allow mapping of your report. For the best mapping report your installation of Winlink should use the highest accuracy GPS device or a carefully typed-in Lat/Lon (xxx.xxxxx, -xxx.xxxx format).
- Under Additional Information or Comments:
 - Write in "THIS IS AN EXERCISE MESSAGE"
 - Indicate whether observations are measured or estimated.
 - Indicate measured barometric pressure if available.

Frequencies and Modes:

Reports will be taken by the callsign AH6T on the following simplex frequencies and modes on 14 October 2023 between the hours of 08:00 and 14:00 HST:

- HF P2P Winlink 500 Hz USB
 - Center Frequency 7119.5; Dial Frequency 7118.0
 - Automatic mode, NCS monitoring RX only.
- VARA FM Winlink P2P on 145.070
- HF Voice: 7180 LSB
 - NCS converts the voice message into Winlink following the Winlink template data field format name.
 - Message preceded and ended by "This is an Exercise Message."
 - NCS available to assist with HF P2P problems
- Winlink Gateways or Telnet (modes of last resort)
 - Optional Winlink capable stations can submit reports via any HF or VHF Winlink gateway using digipeating or the best HF path. You can also send it via Telnet and the report will arrive at Skywarn via the Internet.

MORE INFO AT HawaiiARES.net

~ 2023 BIARC Roster ~

Executive Board officers and committee chairs

President

Alan Okinaka, KH6ATU

Vice President

James Huntley, WH6FQI

Secretary

Joseph Rosenbaum,
WH6JOE

Treasurer

Tony Kitchen, WH6DVI

At-Large directors

Roy Kunishige, KH6KU, and
David Miller, KH6CZ

KH6EJ station custodian

William Polhemus, NH6ET

Public Service/

Communications Committee

Chair David Miller, KH6CZ

Operating Activities Committee

Chair John Bush, KH6DLK

Education and

Outreach Committee

Chair Leslie Hittner, K0BAD

Programs Committee

Chair James Huntley, WH6FQI

Digital Systems Committee

Chair James Huntley, WH6FQI

Voice Repeaters Committee

Chair William Polhemus, NH6ET

Meeting Refreshments

Committee

Chair Robert Schneider, AH6J

BIARC Hamgram

Editor Leigh Critchlow, WH6LC

Club website: <https://biarc.net>

SCIENCE NIGHT: From Page 1

a richer, more engaging program for the elementary-level students. Comments, thoughts, and ideas are welcome.

"Thanks to everyone who helped make this most recent event a success. Joe (WH6JOE), Jim (WH6EMN), and Mark (WH6FSA) are wonderful ambassadors for BIARC.

"We'll be attending more Science Nights in November and December."

The Science Night onsite crew was on hand with a variety of equipment, including the club's new radio (FT-991A), set up by Jim (WH6FQI).

"We enjoyed interacting with everyone, while the students enjoyed chatting over the club's repeater with members on the air. Gary (WH6EPS) fielded the majority of that traffic admirably," said David.

Club President Alan Okinaka, KH6ATU, thanked the Science Night volunteers: "Aloha David, great job with your team in representing the Big Island Amateur Radio club. Mahalo."

BIARC monthly meeting info

The club now gets together on the second Sunday of the month at Kamana Senior Center at 127 Kamana St. in Hilo.

The Executive Board meets at noon, with the membership gathering following at 2 p.m. Zoom

access is provided. Here's the current link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5181360132?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5181360132?pwd=bTVFTG5HZXowYVJ6OHpFcEV1dHJRUT09)
[pwd=bTVFTG5HZXowYVJ6OHpFcEV1dHJRUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5181360132?pwd=bTVFTG5HZXowYVJ6OHpFcEV1dHJRUT09)

Meeting ID: 518 136 0132

Passcode: 3487388

Volcano VERT Radio Check Net open to all on second Saturday of month

Coordinator and net controller Doug Wilson, KH7DQ, invites all licensed amateur radio operators to participate in the Volcano VERT Radio Check Net on the second Saturday of each month.

The net starts promptly at **9 a.m. on the Volcano Repeater; 147.260 MHz; (pl 103.5 on the input only, i.e., transmit only).**

"At the end of the regular two-round format on the Volcano Repeater, we will QSY to our alternate repeater **442.150 MHz (Kulani Mauka; pl**

100.0) for roll call and signal reports. We will then close this portion of the Net and QSY to the Volcano VERT **146.490 MHz** simplex frequency," said Doug.

"On our Volcano VERT simplex frequency (**146.490 MHz**) we will do a roll call and exchange signal reports with each station until all stations on this frequency have been contacted. This will conclude the net.

"The purpose of this net is to 1)

check our equipment, 2) test your ability to reach the Volcano Repeater, 3) check signals from various locations in the Volcano area and the East side of Hawaii Island, 4) have a short open discussion in a "normal" two-round net format, and 5) practice switching to our alternate emergency frequencies.

"Everyone should make sure that their radios are programmed with the above frequencies, offsets and pl tones."

September minutes

BIARC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

BEGIN MEETING:

- The meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm on Sunday, September 11 by Board President Alan Okinaka. Venue was the Kamana Senior Center in Hilo.

Quorum:

- Board members: Alan Okinaka, Jim Huntley, Tony Kitchen, William Polhemus and Joseph Rosenbaum.

Secretary's Report and Minutes:

- Tony moved and Jim seconded to approve the August, 2023 executive board minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- No written report. Payment was made to reimburse Roy Kunishige for the purchase of the club Yaesu 991A transceiver radio and the ATAS antenna system. Payment was also made to reimburse William Polhemus for the custom clamp slated to be installed at the Kulani Cone repeater site as part of the repeater linking project. William moved to accept the verbal Treasurer's report, subject to audit. Jim seconded and motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Public Service Communications Report:

- See attached addendum. As part of the Hawaii VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters) Tony Kitchen has worked tirelessly for the Lahaina, Maui response. David Miller has supported the process as the BIARC Representative to HVOAD. From coordination calls with 166 different organizations on the Federal, State and local levels and working with NGO's (non-governmental organizations) to implementing and using enterprise level

cloud computing and other technologies to ensure everyone is on the same page along with many other duties as well. There is a great need for volunteer experienced hams to help with basic communications between certain groups and to help train others on things like setting up a cross band repeater, field programming a portable radio and basic HF radio operation.

Operating Activities:

- The BIARC outing for the CQWW SSB contest (cqww.com) will be on October 28th at the Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Park in Hilo. No set time, suggest to get there early to secure parking and set-up locations. Quarterly workshops are still in the works, just need to secure a place, time and date. The first workshop will be on radio repair.

Programs:

- Demonstration of the new club radio, the Yaesu 991A and the ATAS antenna system.
- Talk given by Bill Hanson from Civil Defense.

Digital Systems:

- No report.

Repeater Committee:

- William has taken delivery of the tapered leg standoff for the Kulani Cone linking project. The raspberry pi's (<https://www.raspberrypi.com/>) are currently on back order so William will purchase the two UR1X (audio and keying interfaces between the repeater and computer.) There are other projects at various stages that have been put on the back burner during the Lahaina response.

Education and Outreach Committee:

- No report.

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From previous page

Old Business:

- The swap table at the meetings have been a success. Many club members and others have found good quality parts and equipment at very reasonable prices.
- There have been no updates on the possible meeting venue change due to people being busy with the Lahaina response.
- There are two board positions to be filled and one to be ratified at the next election which is in November.
- The CQWW SSB contest outing will be on October 28th at Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Park in Hilo.
- Grid Madness (<https://gridmadness.blogspot.com/p/home.html>) was held on Sunday, September 17th from 1 to 5 pm HST.

New Business:

- Agenda items for the November membership meeting. At the twice yearly membership meetings (as opposed to the monthly activity meetings that are held the rest of the year) members have a chance to make their voices heard. You can bring motions to the floor to be voted on, make suggestions, comments or complaints. This is the chance to help steer the direction of the club. Member input is critical. At this meeting the committees will present their reports.

There being no further business, Alan closed the meeting at 1:34 pm. The next meeting will be on October 8th at the Kamana Senior Center in Hilo. The board meeting starts at noon and the club activity starts at 2 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Rosenbaum,
Secretary

BIARC

Public Service Communications Committee Report – 9/10/23

Outreach

Night Science Event participation on September 6, 2023 under the auspices of the Hilo Museum of Science and Technology, at the EB de Silva Elementary School. Mark Watanabe (WH6FSA), Joseph Rosenbaum (WH6JOE), James Tatar (WH6EMS) and David Miller (KH6CZ) represented BIARC and the PSCC. Gary Schwiter (WH6EPS) handled student VHF traffic expertly. Well attended by Students and Parents with positive feedback. Inauguration of the BIARC FT991a.

BIARC VOAD Representative

Joint maintenance of Master HVOAD Member and email list through the HVOAD Communications Working Group.

Maui Wildfire Coordination Meeting attended bi-weekly.

HVOAD Communications Working Group - member, bi-weekly meetings currently.

Mobile participation in the Maunakea HVOAD Repeater Test Net.

- first Saturday monthly, participated Sept. 2
- Activated by Hawaii Governor during the Maui Wildfire Emergency
- BIARC members are encouraged to participate.
- HVOAD "BIARC" tactical call sign adopted.

Public Service

Siren Test Net participation.

- Monthly Siren Test Net participation - Voice, Winlink, and other reporting.
- BIARC members are encouraged to participate and support the net.

Tony Kitchen

ARES, HVOAD, and Other Matters of Importance

Aloha BIARC members, please kokua:

Annually, for the May and November BIARC Membership Business meetings, members are given the opportunity to provide agenda items to help improve the club's operations and activities for our members.

Your participation with suggestions and recommendations is appreciated.

Please provide your inputs for the agenda by email to Alan Okinaka (alan.okinaka@gmail.com) or by phone (808-987-0096) by November 5, 2023 (Sunday).

Alan Okinaka
KH6ATU

Solar Eclipse QSO Party Seeks Amateurs and Radio Enthusiasts for Global Experiment

ARRL is proud to partner with HamSCI to help promote participation in the Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP). SEQPs are a series of global experiments -- and you can be a part of them. Solar eclipses will pass across the continental United States on October 14, 2023, and April 8, 2024. During these celestial events, you can join thousands of fellow amateurs as part of the largest crowd-sourced event for ham radio scientific exploration. The SEQP is part of the Festivals of Eclipse Ionospheric Science and is for learning more about how the ionosphere works.



All radio amateurs need to do is operate using any mode and any band for all or part of the day, then upload their logs. Participation can be from anywhere; you don't need to be near the path of the eclipse to contribute valuable data. You don't even have to be a licensed ham to participate in the experiment (only to transmit).

- For SEQP contest and rules, visit www.hamsci.org/contest-info.
- For information on the Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge using CW, WSPR, and FST4W, go to www.hamsci.org/contest-info.
- If you're an SWL or AM DXer, you might be interested in the Medium Wave Recording Event. Go to www.hamsci.org/mw-recordings/ for more information.

Or just get on the air and help provide data to better understand the ionosphere.

The first SEQP is on Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 1200 - 2200 UTC, and participants may use any band or mode (except WARC bands). Researchers will take the submitted logs and work to derive meaningful observations from the data.

ARRL members can find out more about the SEQP by reading "The Solar Eclipse QSO Party: A Fun Way to Support Radio Science" in the September/October 2023 issue of *On the Air* magazine. The *On the Air* podcast will feature the article's author, Gary Mikitin, AF8A, talking about the event. The episode will go live on October 12.

AMI Jamboree Scheduled for November

The 2023 [Amplitude Modulation International \(AMI\) Jamboree](#) will be held over the Thanksgiving weekend, starting at dusk on November 24 and ending at dawn on November 27.

AMI Executive Director John C. McGrath, N9AMI, said the jamboree is not a contest but rather an AM-only operating event. "Everyone is welcome to participate, and there is a certificate available for those who contact 25 stations and submit a log," said McGrath. "Each class winner will receive a certificate, and a short biography will be posted on the AMI website. While the age of the equipment doesn't matter, there must be an AM mode selection on the radio," he added.



The preferred AM bands for operation are:

- 160 meters: 1.885, 1.900, 1.945, 1.985
- 80 meters: 3.870 to 3.890
- 40 meters: 7.175, 7.290, 7.293, 7.295
- 20 meters: 14.286 and the upper end of 20 meters

According to the club's history, AMI was formed in 1993. The name was taken from a west coast amateur radio club that was no longer in operation. AMI is now dedicated to the enjoyment, promotion, and preservation of AM. Club memberships include numbered membership certificates, an organization of 10 regions with directors, annual operating events, local club support, and the monitoring of activities that affect AM operations. While the FCC reduced the peak-envelope power measurement for AM, they also issued a statement in support of continuing the mode's important place in amateur radio.

More information is available on the [AMI](#) website.



Volunteer Radio Groups

At 10:19 a.m. on October 19, 2023, millions of people will "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" in The Great ShakeOut, the world's largest earthquake drill ever! All volunteer radio groups are encouraged to participate in the drill (or plan a more extensive exercise).

Major earthquakes may happen anywhere you live, work, or travel. The ShakeOut is our chance to practice how to protect ourselves, and for everyone to become prepared. The goal is to prevent a major earthquake from becoming a catastrophe for you, your organization, and your community.

Why is a "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill important? To respond quickly you must practice often. You may only have seconds to protect yourself in an earthquake before strong shaking knocks you down, or something falls on you.



Millions of people worldwide have participated in Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills since 2008. The Great ShakeOut is held on the third Thursday of October each year.

Everyone can participate! Individuals, families, businesses, schools, colleges, government agencies and organizations are all invited to register.

Register today at ShakeOut.org

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Here are a few suggestions for what volunteer radio groups can do to participate in the ShakeOut. Learn more at ShakeOut.org/howtoparticipate.

Plan Your Drill:

- Register at ShakeOut.org/register to be counted as participating, get email updates, and more.
- Download a Drill Broadcast recording from ShakeOut.org/drill/broadcast.
- Have a "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill at 10:19 a.m. on October 19. You can also practice other aspects of your emergency plan.
- Discuss what you learned and make improvements.

Get Prepared for Earthquakes:

- Update MOUs with critical partners, community leaders and sponsors.
- Check your emergency equipment, such as fire extinguishers, first aid supplies and alternative power.
- Inspect your facilities for items that might fall and cause injury, and secure them with seismic restraints.
- Encourage all members to prepare at home.
- Provide CERT training.

Share the ShakeOut:

- Encourage everyone to ask their friends, families, neighbors and local businesses to register.
- Ask colleagues in other groups to participate.
- Find posters, flyers, and other materials for promoting the ShakeOut at ShakeOut.org/resources.
- Share photos and stories of your drill at ShakeOut.org/share.



DROP!



COVER!



HOLD ON!

As a registered ShakeOut Participant you will:

- Learn what you can do to get prepared
- Receive ShakeOut news and other earthquake information
- Be counted in the largest earthquake drill ever
- Set an example that motivates others to participate

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