



# “From the Shack”

May 2021 Newsletter



## Maybe - Ham Radio IS what it is all about!

So, you're a HAM radio operator and want to use your equipment and be involved.

Where do you start? Where can you best be utilized?

There is no doubt that these questions have been asked time and again. Just where can we be the most effective.

It is a personal decision as to where you choose to serve but may we suggest, **“IN MY LOCAL COMMUNITY”** should be high on the list.

In an emergency, we may be called upon to serve under ARES or RACES, but we should begin in our own neighborhood and community first.

Every major disaster throughout the entire world represents sudden local emergency conditions where loss of life, limb, property, necessary resources and even the ability to call for help have been forced upon people somewhere. When the news story breaks and we hear about it in the midst of our daily lives, the story is about the event itself and the extensive upset to life at the scene. However, somewhere in those initial reports, you usually hear that it was some local ham radio operators who were first able to re-



establish communications and get out the call for help.

They're usually first on the scene, and they always get the job done!

In our country, these reliable, highly trained, and dedicated amateur radio or "ham" radio operators are the same people you know as friends and neighbors. Amateurs they are, as they receive no pay or compensation for the services, they eagerly provide in such times of crisis. The pure satisfaction of provisioning extremely effective civil emergency communications is their fulfilling reward.

You'll recall that it was ham radio operators who provided the first communications downtown on 9/11 when the World Trade Center disaster eliminated electric power, radio, television, and even emergency communications were disrupted.



Hams established communications within a few hours, while it was days before anything else approached normal. And that was right here at home! Amateur Radio ("ham") Operators must be trained and skilled in many aspects of communications and radio technology, in order to pass strict federal licensing examinations to earn their Federal Communications Commission issued licenses and radio "call sign." In very real terms, they are anything but amateur in the performance and utilization of their skills. They own and maintain their own radio equipment and are responsible for all aspects of the operation of their radio stations, whether it is from a fixed base

location, a mobile station, portable station, or from aircraft or marine locations. Hams have built, orbited, and operated their own satellites since 1961, only 4 years after the world's first satellite, Sputnik, blazed the skies.

Hams are for real, and they are an incredibly "valuable asset" to the world, all the time!

### Why use Amateur Radio?

The answer is simple and obvious, and it's because amateur radio equipment is independent of commercial radio services like telephones, cell phones, and even Police, Fire, and EMS service radio services, which are very limited in frequency and interoperability. Ham radio (Amateur Radio) is inherently frequency agile and readily portable, thus it is ideal for emergency dependability. Many hams are able to pick up and go, and set up communications on a moment's notice from almost anywhere. Many do just that for the enjoyment of it. You'll see hams in the parks and around towns providing supporting communications for public events like parades, marathon runs, etc. Such events are easy practice for hams, yet major events like the Boston Marathon and the New York Marathon critically depend on them because hams get the job done.



As part of the development of the "Taylorsville HAMnet" it is important that we utilize all methods to get and keep our group in front of the public.

With that in mind, our logo was developed to identify who we are and what we do.

The logo gives our group name, our group Call sign and the antenna shows that we are a radio communications group.

You will see it used in our newsletters, website, banners, and signs.

Logo stickers are available from Kalani Mack, K7VWZ. [kalanimack@gmail.com](mailto:kalanimack@gmail.com)



The traditional expression “73” goes back to the beginning of the landline telegraph days. It is found in some of the earliest editions of the numerical codes, each with a different definition, but each with the same idea in mind—it indicated that the end, or signature, was coming up.

The first known use of 73 is in the publication “The national Telegraph Review and Operators Guide, first published in April 1857. At that time, 73 meant “My Love to you”.

In the National Telegraph Convention, the use of the numerals was changed to “A friendly work to you”

In 1859, the Western Union Company set the standard “92 code”, a list of numerals from one to 92 was compiled to indicate a series of prepared phrases for use by the

operators on the wires. In the code, 73 was changed to “Accept my compliments”.

Over the years from 1859 to 1900 many manuals show it merely as “compliments” .

The Twentieth Century Manual of Railway and commercial Telegraphy defines it as “my complements or just complements”

By 1908, the Dodge Manual gives us today’s definition of “best regards”. **Best regards has ever since remained as the meaning of “73”.**

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### The international phonetic code

ALPHA	NOVEMBER
BRAVO	OSCAR
CHARLIE	PAPA
DELTA	QUEBEC
ECHO	ROMEO
FOXTROT	SIERRA
GOLF	TANGO
HOTEL	UNIFORM
INDIA	VICTOR
JULIET	WHISKEY
KILO	X-RAY
LIMA	YANKEE
MIKE	ZULU

## What is RACES?

One service within the amateur radio services that uses amateur stations during periods of emergencies is known as the **R**adio **A**mateur **C**ivil **E**mergency **S**ervice, or RACES.

While we will always encourage you to serve your community first, we may find ourselves serving under the direction and control of RACES.

To transmit in RACES, an amateur station must be certified and registered by a civil defense organization or an FCC-licensed RACES station. **RACES is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

**and acts as a communications group of the government.** Registered members of RACES are authorized to respond when a civil defense organization requests amateur radio assistance. Typically these activities occur during periods of local, regional or national civil emergencies such as hurricanes, earthquakes, floods or wildfires. RACES stations may only communicate with specified stations [47CFR 97.407(c), (d)].



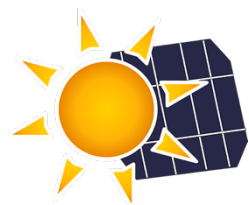
It is important to recognize that the amateur radio stations participating in RACES are certified by their local civil defense organizations for this specific purpose. The operators are a valuable resource that provides emergency communication capabilities to their community. Civil defense organizations establish their own training and certification standards. Some localities “for example, Arlington County, Virginia<sup>7</sup> - have more stringent training and certification standards than others. The key component of the RACES program is the direct and recognized affiliation between the amateur radio operators and local authorities since RACES may provide a critical alternative communications link for local officials. For example, RACES operators serve the county by passing critical emergency information from county officials with the County Emergency Response Team (CERT) to RACES operators at other locations. **Are you RACES certified and registered?**

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## CALENDAR ITEMS

- Our May “Fox Hunt” will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 0900 hours local and running until 1200 hours local. Frequency information is on the event calendar and our website.

**We will conduct this fox hunt in person at the Gary C. Swensen Valley Regional Park. Meet at the parking lot on the north side of the ball diamonds at 9 a.m.**



[Our May in person Zoom meeting” on Solar Power for hams, will be on Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 p.m. The link will be sent out the day before.](#)

## **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO CALL THE NET! -- CALLING THE NET IS A PART OF YOUR PARTICIPATION IN OUR GROUP.**

**We really need your participation. Let us know when you can be “net control” by email at [tville.hamnet@gmail.com](mailto:tville.hamnet@gmail.com) Dates are open from now, through the rest of the year.**

photosinbox.com

**73**

Taylorsville Amateur Radio Club Officers

Troy, N4HAM

Kelli, K7KDP

Gary, AG7PY

Rulon, K7BTU



“From the Shack” is published by the Taylorsville  
Amateur Radio Club

Email [tville.hamnet@gmail.com](mailto:tville.hamnet@gmail.com)

Rulon Swensen, K7BTU