

# GM Net News

## R&O Allows Participation in Disaster Drills

On July 14, the FCC amended [Part 97.113](#) to allow amateurs to participate without an FCC waiver in “government-sponsored disaster preparedness drills” on behalf of their employers participating in the exercise. The R&O also amended the rules to allow employees to participate in “non-government drills and exercises” up to one hour per week and up to two 72-hour periods during the year. How does this impact the Amateur Radio Community? There are folks who don’t want anybody except dedicated hams to be licensed to do communications via amateur radio. Many businesses have seized the opportunity to use Amateur Radio as a cheap alternate communications service. That’s where we have to police the hobby and keep them honest informing them that disaster communications doesn’t mean conducting business as normal. I’ve taught ham classes to lots of Nurses, Doctors, Policemen and National Weather Service employees. When a real disaster strikes, they will be doing what Doctors and Nurses and Policemen do. Their hands will be full just doing their basic job and won’t have time to play radio. That job “is” and will continue to be ours as hams. But in between disasters, I’d like them to keep their radio systems working. The Department of Homeland Security has provided tons of grant money for municipalities to purchase disaster communication equipment which can also include ham rigs and antennas. In some cases, ham clubs have been asked to help install the equipment and train their employees for the Technician license so they can test the equipment on a regular basis. It’s a good thing for them to be able to point the “Ham Volunteer” to where the radio is and maybe even help get the rig on the air on the correct frequency. I personally have walked into a situation where I was unfamiliar with the radio that I was asked to use and have had the employee assist me by getting out the operators manual for the rig and showing me how to change bands and memory/VFO positions. That saved lots of time and fumbling. The St. Louis area has several large employers like Boeing and Monsanto who have very active radio clubs with extremely well equipped club station on-site. The past interpretation of the old rule made it even a gray area if the club station could be used by an employees regardless if they were on the clock or off-duty. This new Report & Order cleared up a lot of assumptions and misconceptions making it clear that it’s ok to “Test” the system and “practice emergency drills.” During the disaster is no time to be learning how to do anything. Practice makes perfect... but there again, there is no such thing as perfect. Just keep practicing and getting more proficient.

73, Rick (WØPC)

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**The GM Nets meet daily Monday through Saturday on 7.277.5 MHz at 17:00Z and Tuesdays on 14.277 +/- QRM at 16:15Z.**

Would you like to help out  
with Net Control Duties?  
Contact our Net Manager  
George, KB9VF  
kb9vf@Comcast.net

## Net Preamble & Closing



### Net Preamble

This is ( your call ), today's net control. This net is composed of employees and retirees of the General Motors Corporation .

### Net Control Stations:

George, KB9VF  
Rick, WØPC  
Ray, K1RAY  
Verle, K8VW  
Chuck, WA8IHI  
Bill, WB9YUR  
Denny, N8XLS  
Bill, WD9AIH  
Art, KC8JLC  
Jim, WY8I  
Walter, DF4IZ

This net meets daily on this frequency for the purpose of getting better acquainted, expanding our knowledge, and improving our operating techniques. We promote friendship among participants in many locations who have many talents and have or have had a variety of work assignments. The General Motors nets are international in scope on some bands, and visitors are always welcome to check in. Please stay carefully tuned to net control at all times. This is ( your call ) ( working for or retired from ) ( your ) Division in ( your city ), ( state ). My home QTH is ( where you live ). My name is ( your name ) and we will now take check-ins, one at a time, please.

### Net Closing

Are there any late check-ins for the net? (pause for late check-ins). Is there any further business for the net? ( pause for any further business ) Having no further business, we will close the net at this time. This net is composed of General Motors employees, retirees, and visitors. We meet each day, Monday through Saturday, on or about this frequency, at ( 1700z or 1800z ). Thank you for your participation and please return often. This is ( your call ) now closing the net. 73 and Good Afternoon.



**The Band Isn't Dead... Just Not As Good As It Can Be.  
Join US at 1700Z On 7.277.5 MHz**

# Gone Fish'n

I've only been home a few days and already hear the lake calling me! Lake of the Ozarks, a beautiful place to be. It's summertime, what am I doing home? I must be crazy. Mid-week the view from our place is quiet and nice but on the weekends, LOOK OUT!



The party begins and the lake goes wild. Every kind of boat you can imagine is out there...and then some. From 71' Bluewater cruisers to fishing boat that skip from wave top to the next. The "Party Cove" got it's name for a reason. Some of the girls even wear bathing suits... 73 de Rick "Gone Fish'n"



**Note from the Editor:** I love seeing articles and stories to share with our group. Keep them coming in. Send me and email to [w0pc@aol.com](mailto:w0pc@aol.com). 73, Rick

# GM Net Control Schedule

## August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Notes: Nets on 7.277.5 MHz, 17:00 Z	2 WOPC	3 K8VW	4 K89VF	5 K1RAY	6 WD9AIH	7 KC8JLC
8	9 WB9YUR	10 N8XLS	11 WY8I	12 WB8M	13 WOPC	14 K89VF
15	16 K8VW	17 K1RAY	18 WD9AIH	19 N8XLS	20 KC8JLC	21 WB9YUR
22	23 WY8I	24 WB8M	25 WOPC	26 K89VF	27 K8VW	28 K1RAY
29	30 WD9AIH	31 N8XLS	Notes: Schedule with DF4IZ (Walter), every Tuesday at 1615z on 14.277 + or - 5 kHz			

# GM Net Control Schedule

## September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: Nets on 7.277.5 MHz, 17:00 Z			1 KC8JLC	2 WB9YUR	3 WY8I	4 WB8M
5	6 WOPC	7 K8VW	8 K89VF	9 K1RAY	10 WD9AIH	11 KC8JLC
12	13 WB9YUR	14 N8XLS	15 WY8I	16 WB8M	17 WOPC	18 K89VF
19	20 K8VW	21 K1RAY	22 WD9AIH	23 N8XLS	24 KC8JLC	25 WB9YUR
26	27 WY8I	28 WB8M	29 WOPC	30 K89VF	Notes: Schedule with DF4IZ (Walter), every Tuesday at 1615z on 14.277 + or -	

# GM Net Control Schedule

October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: Nets on 7.277.5 MHz at 18:00Z Standard Time or 17:00Z Daylight Time					1 KBVW	2 K1RAY
3	4 WD9AIH	5 N8XLS	6 KCBJLC	7 WB9YUR	8 WY8I	9 WB8M
10	11 WOPC	12 KBVW	13 KB9VF	14 K1RAY	15 WD9AIH	16 KCBJLC
17	18 WB9YUR	19 WY8I	20 WB8M	21 N8XLS	22 WOPC	23 KB9VF
24	25 KBVW	26 K1RAY	27 WD9AIH	28 N8XLS	29 KCBJLC	30 WB9YUR
31	Notes: Schedule with DF4IZ (Walter), every Tuesday at 1615z on 14.277 + or - 5 kHz					

# GM Net Control Schedule

November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: Nets on 7.277.5 MHz	1 WY8I	2 W8BIHI	3 WOPC	4 KB9VF	5 KBVW	6 K1RAY
7	8 WD9AIH	9 N8XLS	10 KCBJLC	11 WB9YUR	12 WY8I	13 W8BIHI
14	15 WOPC	16 KBVW	17 KB9VF	18 K1RAY	19 WD9AIH	20 KCBJLC
21	22 WB9YUR	23 WY8I	24 W8BIHI	25 N8XLS	26 WOPC	27 KB9VF

## WD9AIH - Bill The Voice of Daleville, IN



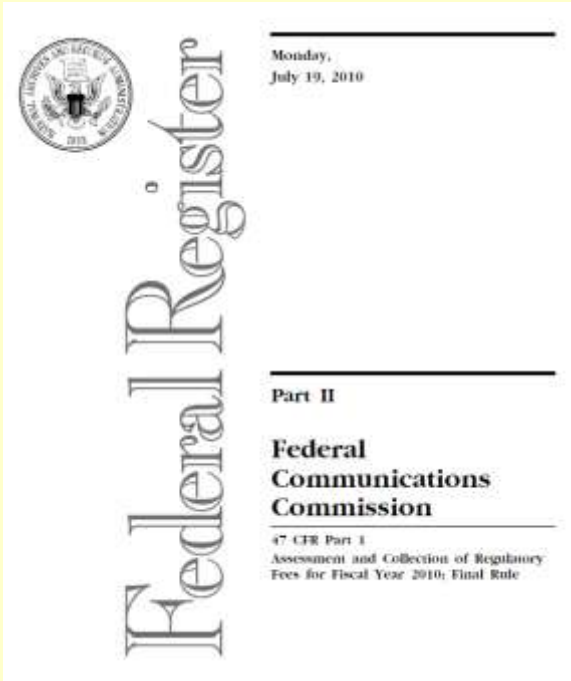
Bill always seems to have a big signal out of Daleville, IN. He's running a TS-530S into a good looking antenna system out behind the workshop. His tower that supports his wire antennas used to be up by the house. Lightning strikes forced him to move the tower out behind the barn. Last spring, Bill got wind of a very good deal on a busted up Gap Challenger vertical antenna. With a little ingenuity and a few spare parts from behind the shed, it's now a good working antenna. It too is out behind the workshop. It's just to the right of the tower. I can't wait to hear what Bill signal will be like when he gets the SB-220 online. The poor band conditions won't hold him back then!

### ***Nice Shack Bill!***

I can't wait to see the pictures of Bill's other toys... the ole '61 Corvette, Harley-Davidson and the race cars, and the super modified "golf cart" too.



## The FCC



### **Vanity Fees:**

On July 19th, the FCC announced the reduction of the Vanity License Fee for new licenses and 10 year renewals. The new fee will be \$13.30 starting August 17th which is 30 day after the Federal Register was published.

I remember friends who paid over \$50.00 for their vanity call's. It was a good deal back then. Only \$5.00 per year to get a preferred call sign. I enjoy having my WØPC call that reflects my 2 hobbies. My daughter says it's "**Pretty Cool". That gave me a chuckle.**

73, Rick

## Renewing Your Vanity Call:

<http://www.arrl.org/call-sign-renewals-or-changes>

When it comes time to renew your vanity license, you have 3 choices. You can have a service like the ARRL do it for you, do it by mail or do it yourself online. Now days, you can do almost anything online with your credit card. The ARRL charges a small fee (\$ ).

The hardest part of doing it online is remembering your "CORES Password". Your FRN is printed on your license or if you can't find the original license, it's published on QRZ.Com or the ARRL's call sign search engine. By now, everyone should have a FRN assigned to your call. If you forget your password, just call the FCC's 800 phone number and they will reset it for you while you are on the phone with them. I helped a friend change his address and they stayed on the line until we were done to make sure we got through the process ok. I'd say that was a "real" help desk... not what you might expect from the government. It's really a very simple process to renew online. Just follow the instruction on the above URL and within a week or so, you will have a new license in your hand. 73, WØPC

# Dayton 2010



I'm sure we got all of your pictures in the above photo. You might have to blow it up and squint to see yourself. Wish I had more close-ups to share.



K8VW & K8DSS



ND8R & WB8M



W9AYJ, W4XKE &  
K3HK



His mind sees things differently than we do:

- 1 . I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- 2 . Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
- 3 . Half the people you know are below average.
- 4 . 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- 5 . 42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- 6 . A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- 7 . A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- 8 . If you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.
- 9 . All those who believe in psycho-kinesis, raise my hand.
- 10 . The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- 11 . I almost had a psychic girlfriend but she left me before we met.
- 12 . OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- 13 . How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- 14 . If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- 15 . Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- 16 . When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- 17 . Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- 18 . Hard work pays off in the future, laziness pays off now.
- 19 . I intend to live forever -- so far, so good.
- 20 . If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
- 21 . Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
- 22 . What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- 23 . My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."
- 24 . Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
- 25 . If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.
- 26 . A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
- 27 . Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
- 28 . The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.
- 29 . To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is re-search.
- 30 . The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.
- 31 . The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.
- 32 . The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.

## Tid-Bits

### Wasp Spray

I have a friend who is a receptionist in a church in a high risk area who was concerned about someone coming into the office on Monday to rob them when they were counting the collection. She asked the local police department about using pepper spray and they recommended to her that she get a can of wasp spray instead. The wasp spray, they told her, can shoot up to twenty feet away and is a lot more accurate, while with the pepper spray they have to get too close to you and could overpower you. The wasp spray temporarily blinds an attacker until they get to the hospital for an antidote. She keeps a can on her desk in the office and it doesn't attract attention from people like a can of pepper spray would. She also keeps one nearby at home for home protection. You could also keep it in your car and it would be legal. I Thought this was interesting and it might be of use to lots of ladies... Pass it on ....



52' Sea Ray over the sea wall. Sometimes it's hard to keep the boats in the water especially when the Skipper is totting a load. Last year same guy crashed his Helicopter at the lake. At least this wreck didn't kill anyone.



### Website to replace GM Retiree eNews

With the advent of the new GM Retiree Communications website -- [www.gmretiree.com](http://www.gmretiree.com) -- we will no longer email Retiree eNews to you. We will be using the website as our primary communications tool going forward.

The new GM Retiree website is a secure site that is password protected. If you have not yet registered, please do so immediately so you do not miss any information important to you.

To register, go to [www.gmretiree.com](http://www.gmretiree.com) and login or click on "REGISTER (NEW USER)" in the upper right hand corner. Enter the last four digits of your Social Security number, birth month and day, zip code and follow the steps to complete the registration process. Once registered, you will be able to login with your email address and password.