

# **KDØCI's RADIO**

## **NEWSLETTER**

**VOLUME 2 NUMBER 1 - JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> 2007**

### **Greetings, and Happy New Year!!!!**

So, was Santa real good to you, as far as certain types of gifts were concerned, that is? Well if not, another opportunity lies just ahead. I'll have more on that in a moment.

First, I certainly hope your new year is starting out right. Going into 2007, I have every reason to be optimistic about the growth of Amateur Radio in our area. The only question is how much cooperation we will get from our partners in the public service sectors. I'm hopeful that politics will not become a deterrent. After all, this effort is for everybody's good.

For openers, Father Jim Cashman, KCØEQE, is starting another Amateur Radio Class. The first session will be this coming Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, at 3 PM at the Parish Center of St. Louis Church in Foreston. Father Cashman will be the instructor, and I will be there to provide support where needed. This course will continue every Sunday through February 4<sup>th</sup>. So, if you know anyone who might be interested in the class, pass the word.

Next, our Tuesday evening net sessions resume at 7 PM on January 9<sup>th</sup>. After closing out 2006 with two very good sessions, I'm anxious to see how fast our net will grow in the coming year. I sincerely hope that the Public Health Center in Milaca will once again become available, as it was such a major and vital component to our efforts. I'm convinced that whoever made the decision to close the facility to our Tuesday Evening Net Operators did not fully understand how important this facility is to our training efforts. It would behoove them to rethink that decision.

Now, as for the upcoming opportunity I mentioned earlier, the St. Cloud Winter Hamfest will be Saturday February 10<sup>th</sup> at the St. Cloud Armory. There is usually a pretty good "Flea Market" of used ham gear there, along with at least one vendor selling new gear. There will also be VE Testing for those of you looking to upgrade, or for those looking to get there first license. Make your plans now to attend, and find out what a "Hamfest" is like.

In the meantime, if Santa was REAL good to you this Christmas, I look forward to hearing you on the air ....SOON.

## Morse Code Requirement Passes into History.

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, I received the following communications from ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. The news of the demise of the Morse Code requirement comes as no surprise, since the handwriting has been on the wall for some time now. Nonetheless, it is a sad day for those of us who actually believe in the value of Morse Code in Amateur Radio.

In an historic move, the FCC has acted to drop the Morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes. The Commission today adopted a Report and Order (R&O) in WT Docket 05-235. In a break from typical practice, the FCC only issued a public notice at or about the close of business and not the actual Report and Order, so some details - including the effective date of the R&O -- remain uncertain. The public notice is located at, [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf).

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## A Brief Review Of The Two Meter Band Plan - FM Simplex Frequencies

I'm often asked why our Tuesday evening net operates at 146.565 megahertz. There are several reasons for this, but among them is compliance with the Two Meter Band Plan.

In an effort to facilitate some order to the FM portion of the two meter band, a "Band Plan" was laid out for amateur radio operators to follow. The plan of a separation of useable frequencies was based on 15 kilohertz segments, thus providing an efficient use of the spectrum without causing interference to operators on adjacent frequencies. This plan seemed to make the most sense at the time it was implemented, and thus the plan is still in force today in most states. There are a few states that have elected to go with even wider frequency separation, however there are none with spacing narrower than 15 kilohertz. [For the record, Minnesota and surrounding states recognize 15 kilohertz spacing.]

The plan covers the entire FM portion of the two meter band, regardless whether it be in the repeater or simplex segments. For example, let's review the following frequencies in just a small portion of the 146.000 Mhz segment.

<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Use/Notes</u>
146.475	Dual Usage	Check your local listings
146.490	Dual Usage	Check your local listings
146.505	Simplex	General Amateur Use
146.520	Simplex	National Calling Frequency
146.535	Simplex	General Amateur Use
146.550	Simplex	General Amateur Use

146.565	Simplex	General Amateur Use [KDØCI's home frequency, and home frequency for our Tuesday evening net!]
146.580	Simplex	General Amateur Use
146.595	Simplex	General Amateur Use
146.610	Repeater Output	[Input 146.010 Mhz]
146.625	Repeater Output	[Input 146.025 Mhz]
146.640	Repeater Output	[Input 146.040 Mhz]

Notice how each frequency is separated by 15 kilohertz. Again, this is intentionally designed to limit the amount of interference to operators on adjoining frequencies.

As for the “dual usage” frequencies noted above, based on what I can find, those are still Simplex frequencies in Minnesota. Be aware however that they could be, and very likely are, Repeater Input frequencies elsewhere. A good guide to this is the ARRL Repeater Directory. If you travel, this is a “must have” item.

So keep this band plan in mind when operating, as considerate operating practice is everyone’s responsibility.

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**Net Roster and Net Control [NCS] Stations for the Mille Lacs County  
Emergency Preparedness Net  
[7 PM Tuesday @ 146.565 Mhz]**  
Stations in **RED** are new call signs.

<b>KAØAJF</b>	<b>Mary</b>	<b>NCS</b>
KØBLR	Ben	
KBØTXV	Sylvia	
<b>KCØEQE</b>	<b>Jim</b>	<b>NCS</b>
KCØUZL	Phil	
KCØVSN	Toby	
KCØVYZ	Steve	
<b>KCØVZA</b>	<b>Pat</b>	<b>NCS</b>
KCØVZB	Bev	
KCØVZC	Kathy	
KCØVZD	Tammy	
KCØVZE	Casey	
KCØVZF	Tony	
KCØVZG	Mike	
KCØWHK	Andy	
KCØWMC	Monte	
KCØYBK	Scott	
KCØYCC	Mary	
KCØYCG	Mark	
KCØYLF	Sara	

WØMBD     Jack  
WØXH     Bud  
**KDØCI     Kenny           NCS**

If I left anyone out, or if there are those who would like to be an NCS, let me know.

### **Newcomers Net**

Check out the Newcomers Net. It's on the air every Monday night at 8 PM on the WØMBD repeater [147.015 Mhz].

### **Newsletter Comments, Questions, Etc.**

Permission is granted to subscribers to reprint this newsletter for distribution to others. Material herein may be used elsewhere, as long as this newsletter is referenced as the source. Your comments, questions, etc for this newsletter are welcome. Send to [kdzeroci@ecenet.com](mailto:kdzeroci@ecenet.com)

Also, **please review the e-mail addresses** I have listed above, and provide me with updates or corrections.

**73,**

**Kenny KDØCI**