



Larkfield Amateur Radio Club, Inc

Huntington, New York
www.larkfield.org



- Wide Area Coverage Repeaters
- APRS Digipeater
- Weather Station
- Educational Training
- Volunteer Exam Sessions
- Weekly Nets
- Monthly Meetings
- Field Day
- Emergency Community Service
- Non Emergency Community Service
- Daytimers
- Group Mutual Help
- E-mail Group
- Fox Hunting
- Camaraderie
- ARRL Affiliated
- Website



The LARKFIELD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. is a broad based ARRL special service club located in western Suffolk County. We support a host of amateur radio activities including 6 amateur radio repeaters, ARES/RACES and public service participation, weekly nets, monthly meetings and much more. In addition to our many other activities, we sponsor educational training for newcomers and upgrades as well as monthly Volunteer Exam sessions using our own Volunteer Examiner Team. We hope you will join our club and support our many activities. Amateur radio is not just a hobby, it is a national resource

We would welcome your application for enrollment in our club. We find that as our membership grows so does our ability to provide additional services.

If you have any questions or desire further information, you are cordially invited to check into our "Club Net" on Monday nights at 8:00 PM on the 147.210 repeater (136.5 PL) or contact the membership chairperson, Larry N2BKJ, via our website: www.larkfield.org.

Amateur Radio Emergency Communications

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 a 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 often hear that it was some local ham radio operator who was first able to re-establish communications and get out the call for help. They're frequently first, they're usually there, and they always get the job done!

In our country, these reliable, highly trained, and dedicated amateur radio or "ham" radio operators are the your friends and neighbors. Amateurs they are, as they receive no pay or compensation for the services they eagerly provide in times of crisis. The pure satisfaction of provisioning extremely effective civil emergency communications is their fulfilling reward. Ham radio operators provided communications downtown on September 11, 2001 when the WTC disaster knocked out electricity, radio and television, and even NYC emergency communications! Amateur Radio Operators re-established communications within the first few hours. And that was right here at home!

Amateur Radio ("ham") Operators are trained and skilled in many aspects of communications and radio technology in order to pass the strict FCC licensing examinations to earn their 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 or 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, readily portable, typically independent and self contained, therefore 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 it done.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is an organization of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), which serves local government and civilian agencies. ARES and the ARRL provide enhanced communications training and certifications. The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is an arm of the federal and state governments utilizing amateur radio operators as a decentralized resource in times of emergency. This organization also provides training and certifications. Often RACES members are called in from afar to aid those in a disaster area. Many RACES members responded to the call for help on September 11th and provided communications downtown when the existing communications failed.

Amateur Radio Operators, working through ARES and RACES, serve many agencies such as The American Red Cross, the National Weather Service, FEMA, the Salvation Army, Hospitals and EMS-Police-Fire services in times when the usual communications fail or become overloaded during emergencies. As one Section Administrator of the Red Cross stated in retrospect to the WTC disaster of September 11, 2001. "In this day and age of modern technology, we still need to rely on Amateur Radio Operators. We would have been lost without them."

To learn more about emergency communications, visit our website www.larkfield.org, the ARRL website www.arrl.org, or contact the your local Emergency Coordinator at our website www.larkfield.org