

# Marlborough EMA Report - January 2020 "Ice Show" Drill

Marlborough Emergency Management - Amateur Call N1EM

Report of Communications Drill – 25 January 2020

Location - EOC - Central Fire Station - Maple St, Marlborough

This was a drill to activate the EOC, train on radio communication setup

The Cape and Islands ARES was conducting a drill using Amateur Radio - Operation "Ice Show". We were to attempt to provide "Off Cape" support using HF radios.

Setup - 9 AM to 10 AM

Drill - 10 AM to 12 Noon

Participants:

Eric Williams KV1J

Frank McInnis K1IX

Rich Landau W1IBN

Ed Fitzgerald K1DIN

Steve Babbitt KC1LPZ

Joe Reynolds KA1GDQ

Alex Sayegh KB1JYD

Deborah Horton N1NVJ

Ken Horton KA1GFN

Ann Weldon KA1PON

Total person-hours - 26 hours

Radios - Non-Amateur:

Radio test was conducted with Dispatch/Fire Alarm on the Fire 1 frequency notifying that the ECO was operational for the drill. MEMA HQ was contacted on the MEMA VHF frequency. We now use the Region 4 frequency since that receive antenna is closer. Communications to MEMA is now solid.

EOC Computer Capability:

We logged into the MEMA WebEOC system and registered our event in the test area. Information was projected on the EOC large display.

The printer problem from the previous drill has been resolved and we can now print to the main printer from the EOC. There is a small issue with the print driver that will be worked with IT.

HF Radio -

75 Meters - 3943 KHz

40 Meters – 7245 KHz

60 Meters – 5330.5 KHz

Radio - IC-706 into the Off-Centered Dipole.

Second IC-706 into the rooftop TarHeel vertical

On 80 meters was in contact with K1DCA, Net Control , in Brewster MA. His signal was 5/9+20 so good path to the Cape area.

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On both 80M and 40M had contacts with:

W1IS Stow MA

WD6QEX Silver Spring MD

40M signals with both stations were 5/9+20

All of the contacts were made with the Off-Centered Dipole. The rooftop TarHeel antenna did not seem to be functioning. A few tests were done on it including a visual inspection on the roof. Will need to do further troubleshooting.

We made several calls on 60 meters with no answer. Since we now only had one HF antenna it is possible we missed calls on that band.

VHF and UHF -

We monitored 146.580 MHz simplex. Contacts with WA1EMA (Acushnet) and KD1CY. On the W1STO remote base frequency we contacted W1IS in Stow.

Using the N1EM UHF repeater made contacts with KC1LPZ and KA1GDQ

Follow up Actions:

1 – Diagnose and fix HP TarHeel antenna

2 – Procure power strips for the radio closets to facilitate moving the radios out on the tables

Submitted by - Eric Williams KV1J

Communication Officer, Operations - Marlborough EMA

Sent to: Marlborough EMA list, KD1CY, WQ1O, KA8SCP, W1IS, K1QAR