

Preparing for MARC Public Service Communications

Each year MARC provides communications support for a number of community events in the surrounding counties.

MARC has provided communications for events like these in the area.

- The Penn Wynn Library Run/Walk for charity.
- The Radnor 5 Mile American Lung Assoc. Run/Walk
- The East Goshen Park MS Walk
- The Vietnam Veterans 5K Run at the Montgomery Co. Farm Park
- The Phoenixville MS Walk
- The Radnor Township Memorial Day Parade

MARC HAS A NUMBER OF PUBLIC SERVICE
VOLUNTEERS BUT ALWAYS CAN USE MORE!



Logistics for all events are prepared in advance by Bob N3JIZ

- Your personal role is to show up on time, at the staging point, and to have the **proper equipment** with you.
- The next few slides, will make suggestions about the necessary equipment to have with you to make your efforts and thereby efforts of the rest of the team successful.
- It is important to remember public service communications is where we, as amateur radio operators, and our club are **most in the eye of the general public. Therefore we want to put our best foot forward by projecting competency!**

Projecting Competency is achieved by Maintaining Communications Discipline

- Use **proper and approved phonetics** at all times to prevent confusion.
- Keep your **transmissions short** and to the point, in other words **do not ramble**.
- Make sure your **microphone switch is secured** so that you are not transmitting when not actually intending.
- Make sure your **equipment is adjusted properly**, i.e. transmit off sets, PL tones, and frequencies.

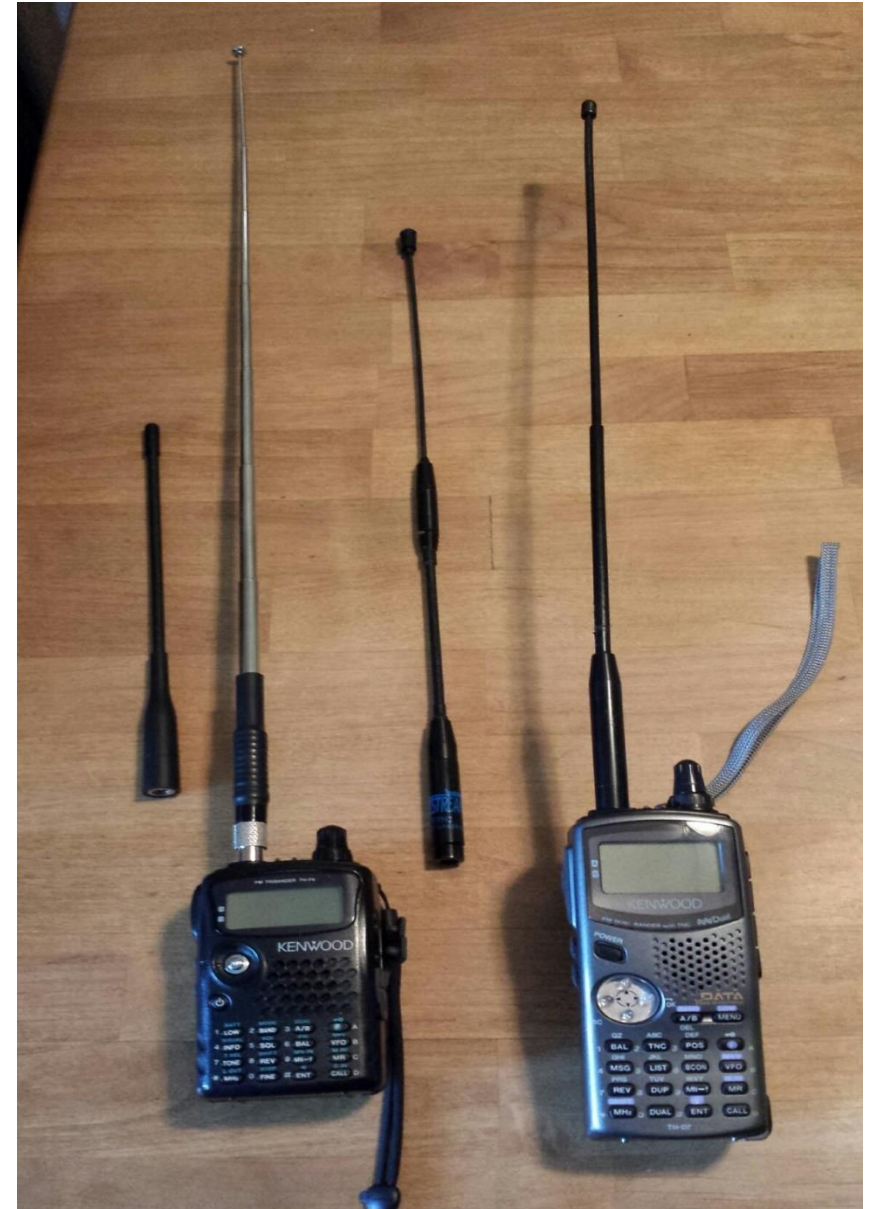
The Dual Band HT

- In some situations this type of radio is all that is needed to provide for good, reliable communications!
- However, your **battery pack** and all backup packs must be **fully charged**.
- Make sure you have at least one if not two **additional battery packs** with you.
- Inexpensive **AA battery holders** designed to fit your radio just like the rechargeable packs offer an alternative to expensive NiMH or Lithium packs.



Remember your antenna is just as important as your radio!

- Rubber Helix antennas are, at best, **poor radiators** and can lead to, spotty and barely readable communications.
- It is best to use a **quarter wave whip** that will provide at least some gain.
- The Diamond SRH77CA, the Nagoya NA-771 and the Smiley telescopic whips are excellent examples.



Some aids to help make HT operation more successful.

- An ear piece or even a headset with attached mic like the Heil Traveler, seen at the top, is an aid in a **noisy operating location**.
- A **speaker mic** is also helpful and most if not all have a jack to allow attachment of an earpiece.



The rugged **Lewong HT carry case** holds an HT, speaker mic, spare batteries and headphones.



Operation, when and where possible, from your vehicle is best!

- Many times it is possible for the public service operator to park his or her vehicle with their dual band **mobile rig and roof top antenna** at their assigned location.
- Most mobile dual band rigs can run at least 20 Watts into a magnetic mounted quarter wave or better still a five-eighths wave whip. **The advantage of this type of operation over using just an HT is obviously tremendous.**
- Even using a 5 Watt HT from a vehicle with the HT connected to a **magnetic roof mounted antenna** is better than just using an HT and its own antenna outside of the vehicle.

Operation with a high power transceiver and detachable control head used portable with a 5/8 wave telescopic antenna.

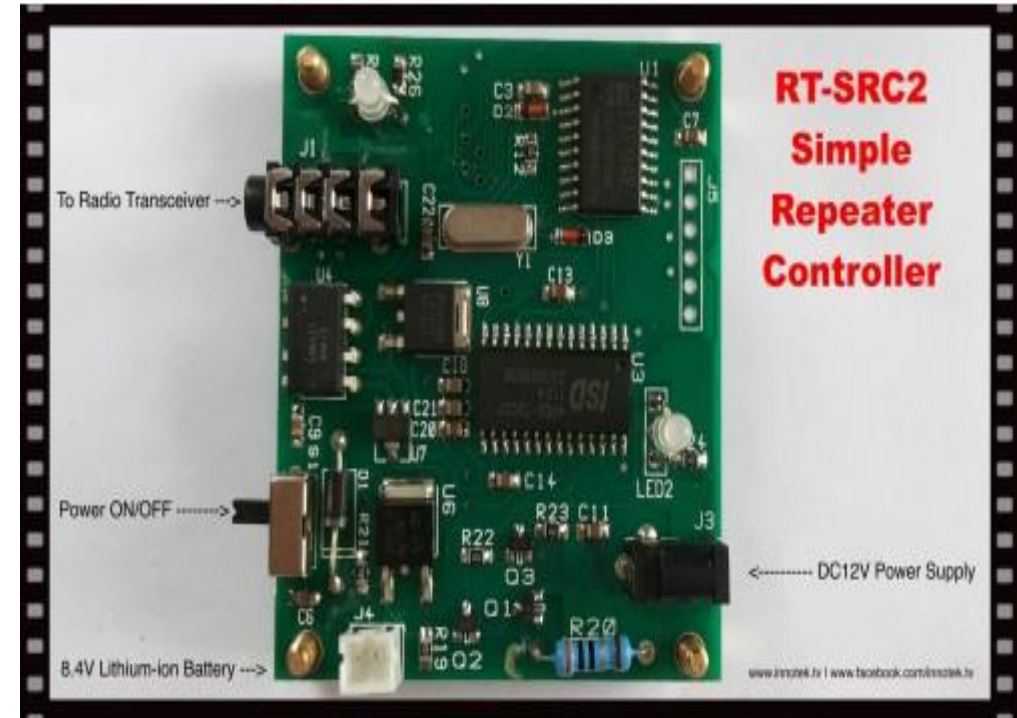


Preprogramming Your Radio

- If at all possible, enter the frequencies of all MARC repeaters and other area repeaters into your HT or mobile rig before an event.
- Since MARC draws its members mainly from **Delaware, Chester, and Montgomery Counties** you should preprogram the repeater frequencies for the major repeaters in these counties. This just makes good sense since your radio can provide you with the ability to communicate anywhere you go at any time.
- **Many times simplex frequencies are utilized.** There are a number of simplex frequencies that MARC uses that you will be asked to preprogram into your radio.

Simplex operation as opposed to operation thru one of the MARC repeaters

Unfortunately not all public service locations are within easy range of one of the MARC repeaters. As a result simplex operation is often the only alternative. MARC now has a new “**Simplex Repeater**” and a large portable vertical which improves simplex operation a great deal.



Just like Uncle Sam
wants you to volunteer
so does MARC!

MARC always needs
volunteers to help
out at public service
events. Your help will
be much appreciated
by those we provide
service for!



LOONEY TUNES



"That's all Folks!"