

# WORLD RADIO

Year 31, Issue 3

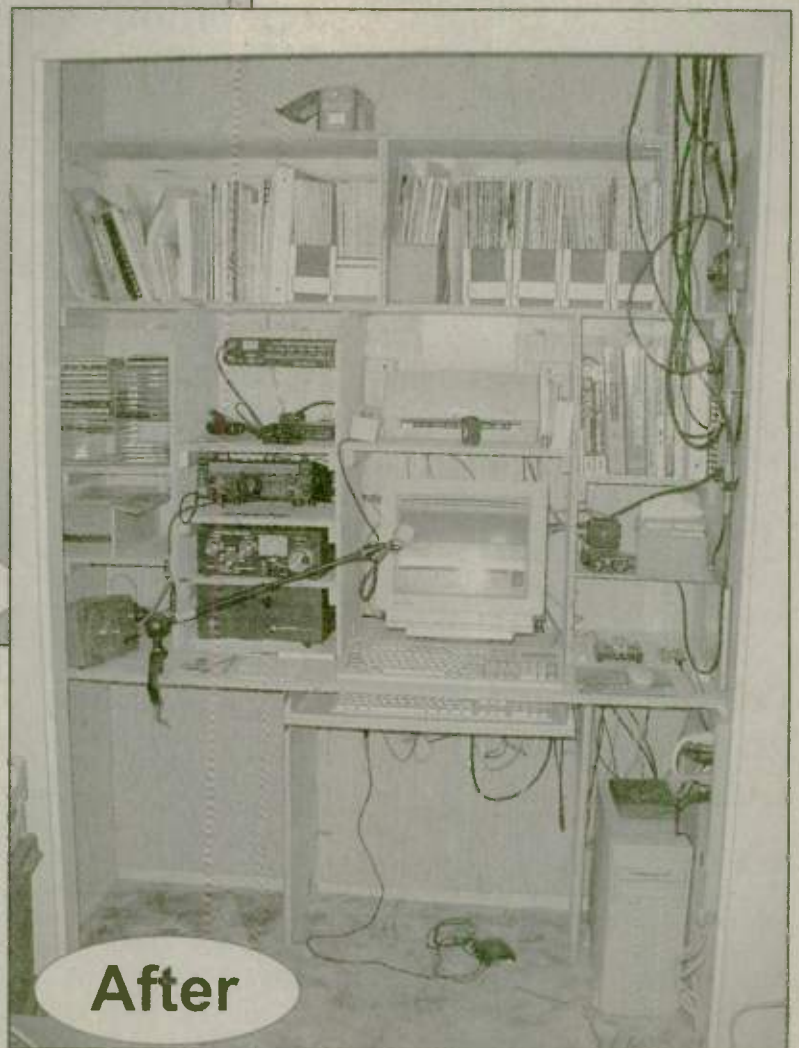
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**Before**

**Transforming  
a closet into a  
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**After**

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## Court upholds antenna law

A U.S. appeals court has rejected a challenge to a federal rule that forbids building owners from restricting installation of direct broadcast television dishes or broadcast television antennas on leased property. The court says that the FCC was 100% correct in overriding land and deed restrictions when it comes to installing antennas for television and satellite television reception.

The Building Owners and Managers Association International and other real estate trade groups had argued that the FCC exceeded its authority in 1998 in imposing the regulation on leased property. They also said it was arbitrary, capricious and an unconstitutional taking of private property.

But Judge Raymond Randolph found these arguments without merit. In his finding he stated that this rule does supersede state and local law, zoning, land-use and building regulations and homeowners' association rule that attempt to limit the installation and use of such antennas. More important, he said the over-the-air reception devices rule is well within the purview of the FCC to issue.

The rule covers patios, balcony railings and gardens with exclusive availability to a specific renter. It does not extend to common areas of the property. Nor is it applicable to two way radio system antennas including those used by Hams, GMRS or CB radio operators. — *Newslines*

## League will ask congress for help on CC&R's

The ARRL says it will ask for congressional action to help Hams who have had their activities severely hampered or curtailed by land use or deed restrictions. Meeting 20-21 July, the ARRL's Board of Directors adopted what it terms as a goal of legislative action to provide amateurs with the

same level of protection from real estate covenants, conditions and restrictions now enjoyed by small satellite dish owners and others receiving over-the-air broadcast signals.

Board members felt that amateurs should be granted the right to install an antenna having a visual impact similar to that of a home television satellite dish or other antenna that falls under the FCC's Over the Air Reception Devices policy. Back in 1999, the agency affirmed the rule that prohibits deed restrictions that impair the installation, maintenance or use of antennas used to receive video programming. — *ARRL, Newslines*

## DXCC approves operations for credit

The T5AR operation from Somalia, and the 3XY1BO, 3XY7A, and 3XYO3A operations from Guinea have been approved for DXCC credit. Operators whose previous submittals for any of these operations were rejected may contact DXCC to update their records without having to re-submit the cards. — *ARRL Letter*

## Congo operation questioned

A letter issued 28 June by Secretary General Jean Philippe Monkonzi of the Postal and Telecommunications Ministry for the Democratic Republic of Congo has stated that no licenses were issued authorizing operation under the call signs 9Q5BQ and 9Q/CX2CC and called the stations "radio pirates." Pierre Petry, HB9AMO, was reported to be operating as 9Q5BQ but has since returned to Switzerland. During the recent International Amateur Radio Union HF Championship contest 14-15 July, the Amateur Radio Association of the Democratic Republic of Congo obtained special permission to operate ARAC headquarter club station 9QØAR. QSLs for this special operation are being handled by F2YT.

— *The Daily DX, ARRL Letter*

## Amateur Radio helps save four lives

Just four weeks after exercising their emergency communications skills during ARRL Field Day, members of the Northern Southeast Amateur Radio Emergency Services and Juneau Amateur Radio Club put those skills to use to help to save a fellow Ham operator and several companions.

On 22 July, Mark Griffith, KLØMO, was rafting down the Herbert Glacier River with three friends when their raft was severely damaged. The group was stranded on a small island in the middle of the raging river, swollen by heavy rainfall.

Early that evening, Griffith used the KL7PF repeater phone patch to call 911, and search-and-rescue personnel were alerted. Meanwhile, Bob Dewey,

WL7QC, overheard Griffith's transmission and set out for the trailhead to meet with the rescue personnel. He was able to contact Griffith on simplex, providing direct contact with rescue personnel.

The Juneau Mountain Rescue team had to cut its way through dense undergrowth to get to the stranded rafters. The weather prevented the use of a helicopter, and the river was too fast, and had too much debris, to use a rescue boat.

The four huddled for the night beneath the remains of their raft. Although Griffith's battery was depleted, it retained enough power to receive Dewey's communications.

A member of the SEADOGS search-and-rescue dog team located the rafters at around 1 a.m., and they were airlifted off the island around 7 a.m. by the U.S. Coast Guard. The four rafters suffered only mild hypothermia.

"Ham radio really saved their lives," said incident commander Bruce Bowler.

"It was a great help in finding out exactly where they were and what condition they were in. We were able to get updates throughout the night on how they were doing." — *N3WWE, ARRL Letter*

# WORLD RADIO

September 2001 Year 31 Issue 3

On the cover: I'm not eligible for the Station Appearance prize, but I'm sure proud of my oldest daughter's closet since she moved out. — Rick McCusker, WF6O

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Articles for consideration may be submitted through the U.S. Postal Service or e-mail to [articles@wr6wr.com](mailto:articles@wr6wr.com).

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See *Worldradio*, Oct. 1994 issue.

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# Editor's Log

Every once in a while you have the pleasure of meeting someone who strikes you as a very wise and astute individual. One of the qualities usually shared by such individuals is that of value. The word "quality" comes to mind when they consider a major purchase or a long term commitment to a product. These individuals read all the reviews, talk to friends and generally just keep a keen eye out for a good quality product before they make the decision to spend their hard-earned dollars on something.

Every month, we list the newest *Worldradio* Superboosters (Lifetime Subscribers) for you at the beginning of the Editor's Log. Why do we do that? To give you the chance to seek out one of these individuals and seek wisdom from them. After all, they fit the mold of the person described in the first paragraph. You, too, can be a wise individual by learning from them and following in their footsteps.

Our latest additions to the long list of *Worldradio* Superboosters are:

- R.J. Benoit, W1LIB  
Flemington, NJ
- Franklin Pope, N4FEP  
Laurens, SC
- Henry Dean, N8DOE  
Sanford, FL
- Ian Hopkins, KN4OW  
Port St. Lucie, FL
- Larry Fields, WD8ITF  
Barberton, OH
- Patrick Juras, K8BVC  
Elk Rapids, MI
- John Emmett, NØMHZ  
Aberdeen, SD
- Anthony Bogusz, W9MT  
Harwood Heights, IL
- Wilton Mason, WD5DNA  
Springhill LA
- Gordon Ryan, W7FEO  
Moses Lake, WA

Anthony Bogusz, W9MT, is a very, very lucky individual. He happens to know Stuart Oserman, WA9ZPL. As a result of that friendship, Stuart purchased a Lifetime Subscription for his friend, Anthony. Don't you wish you had a friend like that?

Occasionally I remind you that *Worldradio* is a magazine that depends heavily on you and your stories. We try to bring the human interest side of this fabulous hobby to all of our readers. But it all depends on you, our readers, to send us your stories. Have you had an experience in Amateur Radio that would make a good story to share with our readers? No, you say? What about a fond memory of your first contact? How did you get involved in the hobby? Did your "friend" do something you still laugh about to this day? Why not share the story with our readers? What, you don't think you can write? How do you know you can't until you've tried? Send us your story! You may win a Pulitzer Prize for that story.

The "Quest" continues! Another card arrived this week bringing the total to 16 out of 20 sent. Four more to go! Maybe my harsh words about the dismal QSL return rate has had an effect on this problem. Then again, maybe I just got lucky. From e-mails and letters the readers have sent about the "Quest" and their own QSL card return rates, maybe "lucky" describes it best. With a return rate of just over 75%, I'm a happy camper!

While I'm on the subject of QSL cards (insert drum roll here), we have come to a major decision about our awards offered to our readers. I know there are a lot of our readers who are saving money by using the eQSL service on the Internet. So, after several e-mails back and forth between the webmaster of eQSL and me, we will now honor your eQSL cards in your application for any of our awards.

Why are we doing this? The eQSL system is a cost-effective and secure way to exchange QSL cards and we want to take that step into the future of the hobby. Besides, with technology available today, anyone who wants to cheat can do it, easily. But we have complete faith and trust in our readers to do the right thing.

If you haven't used the service, just log onto [www.eQSL.cc](http://www.eQSL.cc) and take advantage of the latest service in Amateur Radio.  
— WF6O

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# The 4X Experience.

Dave Paperman, W5WP

**H**aving been to Israel a number of times I have visited most of the usual tourist attractions. Having been a member of the IARC (Israel Amateur Radio Club) for many years shaped my decision to make this visit primarily an Amateur Radio "operating" visit.

I had been invited to use a friend's (Shimon, 4X6RD) apartment complete with radios, amplifiers and a tri-band (TH7DX) antenna. As calmly as possible, I accepted his offer.

Licensing, which was never difficult to obtain in Israel now requires even less paperwork since both Israel and the United States are now signatories of the CEPT (Committee Europeenne Postes et Telegraphiques) agreement. Licensing was automatic — just add the 4X prefix to my home call.

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Although my friend's station is well equipped, the gear is not quite up to today's DXing and contesting standards (no SSB or CW filters, pre DSP — one does get spoiled) so I had brought along an Icom IC-706-MKII. Also included in the baggage was a G5RV antenna to extend my operating bands to 40/80 Meters. Since he does not operate CW, an AEA memory keyer

**"Working Europe and Asia in the same time period with almost equal signal strength is a real shock."**

was included in the operating equipment. I was also determined to do some additional operating with the new digital mode, PSK31. Along with my laptop I brought an adapter box (between laptop and rig for audio isolation), which I had fabricated the previous month for Field Day activities.

I arrived at Ben Gurion Airport (Tel Aviv) more or less on time the afternoon of 2 July. A long Flight; 3.5 hours from Houston to Newark, a change of equipment and 10.5 more hours to Tel Aviv, all on Continental Airlines new service to Israel. After clearing immigration (no problems — no long lines) and customs (through the "nothing to declare" line) it was a great relief to be met by an old friend

Ed, 4Z4UR, who proceeded to take me directly to the apartment I would be using throughout my stay. The balance of that evening was devoted to unpacking clothes and equipment.

Excitement overcoming "jet lag," that night I reconfigured the station to accommodate the equipment I had brought with me. A power supply for the IC-706-MKII was available. Antennas, other interconnections and how to operate the European style air conditioning control (a MUST in Tel-Aviv in July) had been clearly labeled by 4X6RD. All went smoothly. The installation of the G5RV, which required the addition of a rope and pulley arrangement to my friend's tower would have to wait the availability of the local tower "guru," Tzvi, 4X4CQ.

All that accomplished, I hit the "airways." Running 80 watts most of the time to the TH7DX antenna located atop the five story apartment building, I tuned the bands listening to local conditions. The first station heard was EM5IUA operating from IOTA (Islands On The Air) EU-180. This operation turned out to be my first QSO of the trip. Essentially this was a "test QSO" (it would not count for my IOTA score as I was not in my home country). With the knowledge that all was well, I finally sacked out. Operating did not begin in earnest until 3 July at 0814 UTC when, again running 80 watts I broke through a "pileup" and worked 5I3A, Yanbe Island (Tanzania) on 10-meter CW.

The pileup began for me when I "staked out" a frequency and started calling "CQ." Operating from Israel is a whole new adventure. Working Europe and Asia in the same time period with almost equal signal strength is a real shock. Having stations "drop in" on you from countries that are considered quite rare from my home QTH is another shocker! In one case I ran into a station operating from Bangladesh (S2) and a Swedish operator who spoke fluent Hebrew (far better than mine.) Most operation was on 15 and 20 Meters. There were some openings on 10 Meters and night time into Europe



on 40 Meters. I made no contacts on 80 Meters due to the configuration and location of the G5RV.

The sources of QRM were interesting. While we in the fifth district complain about QRM from the "three coasts" (East, West and North - 8,9, and 0 land) one begins to understand the complaints of Middle East operators trying to work the U.S. and Canada who have to contend with QRM from Europe and North Africa.

After several days, Tzvi found time from his busy work schedule and a move to a new apartment to come by and install the rigging for the G5RV on the tower, a "home brew" monopole crankup! Due to the lack of roof space, the G5RV was installed in an inverted "V" configuration. With this antenna came new surprises; the final QSO count included many contacts on 6 Meters, a band for which I had NO dedicated antenna. I can only speculate that the version of the "home brew" G5RV has "talents" I was not aware of!

Of equal importance to me were the "eyeball QSO's"; the visits and club meetings that I attended, some for the first time. Language was not a problem. The majority of Israeli Hams speak English. Some are Americans who have emigrated to Israel.

I felt welcome on the repeater systems, which cover virtually all of Israel. Using the repeaters, I came across friends I had made while DXing from home. This led to quite a few very pleasant evenings spent visiting them and their families. The repeaters, incidentally, operate with the same "splits" as U.S. repeaters. The "smart" controllers come from the U.S. and ID in English!

I was also invited to participate in the IARC Field Day which takes place in July. The site I operated from is located in a park approximately 30 miles from Tel Aviv. Located within this park is a grove of trees that is a memorial to 4X operators who have passed away. The site is named, appropriately, the "Silent Key Forest."

The city of Tel-Aviv is a truly cosmopolitan city. One can walk down the streets and hear many different languages spoken. Parks abound; most with well maintained landscapes. Res-

taurants are many and excellent offering a variety of menus. There are museums, theaters and other places of cultural and historical interest. Interspersed with the boutiques carrying the latest fashions are small family type markets. Being a resident in the apartment, I found it convenient to fix many of my own meals. I did this for two reasons; eating "at home" allowed me more operating time and also provided the pleasure of small market shopping with its variety of food fresh from the farms that abound in Israel, markets virtually extinct in the part of the United States in which I reside.

All in all, this particular trip to Israel was one of the most enjoyable I have made. Good friends, good operating conditions, great pileups. The Icom 706-MkII performed flawlessly on all bands and modes. All the things I look for and enjoy when I go abroad to play radio happened on this trip — even the added pleasure of being able to work friends from home (K5LBU, K5NZ, KC5AEP among others).

To fulfill a promise to Mark Stern, 4Z4KX, the contest manager of the IARC I would like to remind all operators of the Holyland Contest which takes place in April of each year. The IARC is trying to build U.S. participation in this very special contest. The contest is a challenging one for those operators not resident in the eastern part of the U.S. After some discussions with Mark, the awards are now issued to the winners in the U.S. call districts as opposed to the country as a whole. The certificates are real "wall hangers," very beautifully done.

By the time I had gone QRT on 19 July at 1714 UTC (last QSO 4LØDXP, 20-meter CW) I had worked over 1,300 contacts, participated in the IARU contest (mixed mode) and been "blooded" in PSK31.

Special thanks go to Shimon, 4X6RD, Ed, 4Z4UR, Tzvi, 4X4CQ and the leadership and members of the IARC.

Recovered from jet lag, IC-706-MKII reinstalled in the truck, I am ready to go again!

In the March 2001 issue of QST Magazine I learned that 4X/W5WP had won in the "mixed mode" category (working both SSB and CW) of the 2000 IARU contest!

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## WRC-2003 and 40 Meters

**A**lthough there are probably a lot hotter topics in Ham radio than the behind-the-scenes maneuverings leading up to the next World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) from 9 June through 4 July 2003, in Geneva, Switzerland. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) will set the final agenda sometime in the near future, but it looks like one of the issues slated for discussion will be resolution of the use of amateur and broadcast services in the vicinity of 7 MHz — the 40-meter band.

The lead dog in the 2003 WRC parade is the FCC, and more specifically, the FCC's WRC-03 Advisory Committee. The International Bureau of the FCC (primarily its Planning and Negotiations Division) bears the major burden of the support tasks for the Committee's WRC-03 efforts, including a lot of the brainpower and logistics. The Advisory Committee is just getting started (they met in January for the first time to get things started for WRC-2003), but they already have a website you can check out at [www.fcc.gov/wrc-03/](http://www.fcc.gov/wrc-03/) and you can send

stuff to the Committee at their own e-mail address: [wrc03@fcc.gov](mailto:wrc03@fcc.gov)

The WRC-03 Advisory Committee is the major source of input to the FCC as it works to prepare the United States' positions on each agenda issue. The Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (which we all fondly refer to as the IRAC) Radio Conference Subcommittee coordinates input from government agencies like FEMA, the military (DOD), the intelligence community (i.e., Uncle Sam's SWL group), and other folks with whom we Hams share the ether. The final U.S. positions are the result of agreement of the FCC, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and the U.S. Department of State, so you know the FCC staffers have a tough job

bringing it all together.

### The WRC agenda

The ITU Council has recommended that the WRC-03 agenda include Item 1.23, the consideration of "realignment of the allocations to the amateur, amateur satellite, and broadcasting services around 7 MHz on a worldwide basis taking into account Recommendation 718" from the 1992 WRC. There is another item on the agenda that may have a significant impact on the amateur-broadcast realignment. The Council has also recommended in Item 1.36 that WRC-03 "examine the adequacy of HF broadcasting allocations from about 4 MHz to 10 MHz, taking into account the seasonal planning adopted by WRC-97." As

## Amateur Radio Call Signs

The following shows the last call sign in each group to be assigned for each VE Region under the sequential call system as of 16 July 2001.

For more information about the sequential call sign system, see Fact Sheet PR5000 #206-S dated August 1996 or contact the Federal Communications Commission, Consumer Assistance Branch, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245, toll free 888/225-5322

District	Group C Technician	Group B General	Group A Am Extra
Ø	KCØLBB	++	ABØRO
1	KB1GZT	++	AA1YT
2	KC2IGS	++	AB2ML
3	KB3GVY	++	AA3XG
4	KG4OJZ	++	AG4JT
5	KD5PCG	++	AD5ET
6	KG6HDQ	++	AD6YN
7	KD7NVM	++	AC7ZQ
8	KC8RVM	++	AB8LH
9	KB9ZYS	++	AB9CO
N. Marianas	KHØNH	++	++
Guam	KH2VL	++	++
Hawaii	NH7FT	++	AH6RM
American Samoa	WH8ABF	KH8DP	AH8W
Alaska	KL1DP	++	++
Virgin Island	WP2AIN	NP2LT	++
Puerto Rico	WP3LP	++	WP3T

++ All calls in this group have been assigned

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## Rules & Regs

any amateur who passed the more basic written elements of the license exam can tell you, the 40-meter band above 7 MHz falls smack in the middle of this spectral territory.

If you are thinking that now would be a good time to see where the FCC and its Advisory Committee are going on these 40-meter issues, the Committee has published the preliminary views of its Working Groups on many of the WRC-03 agenda items, including both agenda items 1.23 and 1.36. The final reports are not due until next year, so we still have time to get in a few words before the momentum builds.

### 7 MHz caveats

Before we develop a position or make recommendations to the ARRL or the FCC (or just argue amongst ourselves in a civilized manner on the great 75-meter Ham Forum), it is important that U.S. amateurs know a bit about the history of the 7 MHz band and the relative position of Region II (and especially U.S.) amateurs in any decision-making process relative to 7 MHz and the rest of the world.

The history of amateurs and the 7 MHz 40-meter band is complex. Prior to the so-called Cairo Conference in 1938, amateurs had exclusive use of the 300 kHz from 7000 to 7300 kHz. That was throughout the whole world, which had not yet been divided into three. With the rise of Nazism and

the gathering of war clouds in Europe and the Far East, there was a lot of political pressure to open up more of the spectrum to broadcasting. The European propagandists won and 150 kHz was chopped off of the amateur band in Regions I and III. We got to keep our full 300, but the broadcasters outside of the Western Hemispherical limits of Region II got to use the upper 150 kHz.

Things were no better for Regions I and III after World War II banished the Nazis. The world was safer for democracy, but not for Hams outside the Americas. At the 1947 Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey, the Region II/III allocation was reduced again and the 200 kHz from 7100 to 7300 kHz was reallocated to the broadcasting service on a primary basis for Regions I and III. As we all know, you can't limit radio waves to a region (at least on HF), so a full two-thirds of the Region II amateur allocation is really iffy after dark when the broadcasters crank up their high-powered rigs. There are some other restrictions particular to countries that have assigned 7000-7050 kHz to the fixed service on a primary basis.

### The ARRL role

The ARRL is taking a very active role in the FCC's WRC-03 Committee, especially in Informal Working Group 6 which is handling the drafting of

FCC positions on agenda items 1.23 (7 MHz) and 1.36 (broadcasting 4-10 MHz), as well as all of the other agenda items focused on Amateur Radio. The ARRL's very capable Technical Relations Manager, Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, is the designated driver on the 7 MHz issue under agenda item 1.23. If you want to send your thoughts on the issues directly to Paul, his e-mail is [prinaldo@arrl.org](mailto:prinaldo@arrl.org). The draft "Preliminary View on WRC-03 Agenda Item 1.23" prepared by Paul for Informal Working Group 6 (Document IWG-6/014, Revision 2, dated 17 April 2001) states the issue quite succinctly: "The need for a worldwide exclusive spectrum allocation for the amateur and amateur-satellite services in the three ITU Regions." That is the gauntlet laid down for WRC-03, and it will not be an easy goal to reach.

One thing that many Hams may not know is that the U.S. position on fixing the 7 MHz problem involves a 100 kHz downshift of the 40-meter amateur band worldwide.

This recommendation was approved by Informal Working Group 6 and was presented to the June meeting of the Advisory Committee, but was not adopted because the FCC recommendation and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) are at odds. The NTIA, which is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, is (according to its own web site at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/>) the President's chief advisor on domestic and international telecommunications and information technology issues. As you might guess from the fact that the NTIA is an agency of Commerce, it carries a lot more water for commercial and business interests (ah...er...ummm...maybe.... could that mean.... BROADCASTERS ??) than Amateur Radio interests. Duh!

### The NTIA view

Anyway, the NTIA position, while it does not agree with the FCC and ARRL position, is fairly objective in its assessment of the problem facing

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a return to the days when amateurs had a clear 300 kHz free from night-time interference from HF broadcast stations. The NTIA analysis goes like this:

"As part of a long standing historical situation, the amateur/amateur satellite exclusive allocation in Region II goes from 7000 to 7300 kHz, while it goes only from 7000 to 7100 in Regions I and III. The other 200 kHz for Regions I and III are allocated exclusively to the broadcasting service. The Amateur Radio community has been trying to "realign" this "imbalance" for decades. WRC-2000 for the first time specified that the agenda item be on the agenda for the next WRC, in this case WRC-03.

**It is unlikely that the broadcasting service community will wish to relinquish any spectrum, particularly since this spectral region is within the 4 to 10 MHz spectral region where under WRC-03 agenda item 1.36 the broadcasters are in effect asking for more spectrum.** [emphasis added]

The NTIA analysis continues, "It is equally unlikely that the amateur/amateur satellite service proponents will propose reducing the amateur/amateur satellite allocation in Region 2 so that the "realignment" would take away spectrum just to have equal amounts for each Region. Because of the potential impact of such realignment, the agenda item will most likely become an allocation item involving the other allocated services." In other words, the NTIA scoffs at the idea that you can realign the 40-meter band and predicts a battle for spectrum among all the services currently inhabiting that portion of the spectrum.

The NTIA recommendation is very politic, without taking much of a position. They want the U.S. position to be: "To accommodate the desire to have the same spectrum allocation in all three regions for the amateur/amateur satellite services in the frequency spectrum range around 7 MHz, the U.S. believes that careful consideration will have to be given to the needs of the fixed service and the broadcasting

service in this part of the frequency spectrum.

Well, the NTIA recommendation is as inarticulate and wishy-washy a non-position as any I have ever seen. Pure bureaucratic mush. And yet, at the same time, it is a very realistic and politic position for the Commerce Department, which is as much of a commerce-promoter as it is a commerce regulator.

### Your views count

We are, of course, a long way from WRC-03 and still quite a ways from the deadline for fashioning the final U.S. position. So how do we slice up the pie and avoid throwing out the baby with the bath water? The worst case scenario is that those of us in Region II could end up squeezed into the same 100 kHz with amateurs in regions I and III. The clear 300 kHz seems like wishful thinking, but is a worthy goal, even if it means moving down a hundred clicks to 6900 kHz. What should we do? How do we bargain? Should we exchange bandwidth for exclusivity by compromising on 6900 to 7100 kHz free and clear of broadcast-

ers? Can we get 300 kHz by going down to 6800 kHz and sharing that 100 kHz with whoever dwells there now so we can get 6800 to 7100 and stay below the broadcasters?

I would like to devote several more columns to this topic, so it is up to you to write or e-mail me with your views. You now know the issues and have some background. If enough of you respond, I can avoid doing a column on the dead-end WRC-03 issue of mandatory Morse code below 30 MHz and the tongue-in-cheek, eyes-rolled-up-to-heaven position of the ARRL board which has asked the FCC to keep a Morse code requirement for the U.S. no matter what. None of us want that — even for next April, so let's hear it from you guys! Forty meters...what do you suggest we do? Watch this space!

— David Splitt KE3VV, our Rules & Regs doctor has his finger firmly on the pulse of the FCC and the ARRL. If you have a question or opinion he can be reached by sending snail mail to: 6111 Utah Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20015, or by sending e-mail to: [davidsplitt@erols.com](mailto:davidsplitt@erols.com).

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# Young Ham of the Year

Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF

**P**atrick Clark, KC8BFD, a 7-year-old from Elkview, West Virginia who is heavily involved in public service, emergency communications and youth recruitment of new radio amateurs, has been named the 2001 "Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year" according to Award Administrator Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF. The award is jointly sponsored by Amateur Radio Newsline, Vertex Standard USA, Inc. of Cerritos, California and *CQ* magazine of Hicksville, NY.

Licensed since age 10, Patrick comes from an all-Ham family. His sister Erin is KC8PZZ. Mother Tina is N8TSY and his dad is Jeff Clark, K8JAC. Following in his family's footsteps, Patrick has been involved in emergency service work from the day his Amateur Radio license arrived in the mail. This included the West Virginia Field Day flooding of 1998 when the annual emergency preparedness drill took on a real life meaning as the skies unexpectedly opened up:

"It was sad to see how many people lost their houses," said Patrick, who with his mother, drove to the flood ravaged area to provide communications assistance. The story of one of the disaster victims still hangs in Patrick's mind:

"People showed up at the shelter having nothing. The incident I remember most is when a family came in and said that they had just lost their father, and the child did not have his medication...and we need his medication because he is a diabetic...so we contacted Metro 911 and got him his medication. And it sort of made mom and I feel we had actually accomplished something and helped save a kid's life..."



Patrick Clark, KC8BFD, was named the 2001 "Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year."

If you get the feeling that providing public service communications is almost a way of life for Patrick, you would not be wrong. In addition to his Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) activities, KC8BFD is also a Certified Severe Weather Spotter with Skywarn. He also holds certification in Basic Life Support and use of a defibrillator. While not a scout, he is a regular operator with the Jamboree on the Air, has spoken twice at the Dayton Hamvention Youth Forum, and promotes Amateur Radio to other youngsters through personal appearances. This includes the annual Sheriff's Youth Camp. And while maintaining a 3.5 grade point average, Patrick still finds the time to act as Net Control Station for the weekly Kanawha Amateur Radio Club's weekly 2-meter net. In his spare time he is trying to get the Worked All States Award on 10 Meters.

"I like the challenge of getting [awards like] the Worked All States Award (WAS). I am mailing out QSL cards tomorrow to try to get 42 states confirmed."

Among those commenting in favor of Patrick's nomination was Morris "Mac" McMillian, W8XF, who is ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator for West Virginia. McMillian believes that the future of Amateur Radio is in good hands with a young man like Patrick Clark, KC8BFD:

"I have always been able to rely on Patrick's ability to think on his feet in a drill or actual ARES activation, both as EC and now as SEC," says W8XF, adding: "To how many youngsters can you turn over a brand new Yaesu FT-847 on Field Day and say go for it? I did just that with Patrick. Not only was he proficient with it, he taught me new features on my radio!"

The 2001 Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award will be presented at the Huntsville Hamfest in Alabama. The award ceremony will be co-hosted by Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, of Amateur Radio Newsline and YHOTY Award Committee Chairman Larry Zettwoch, KR4IF. Also present will be representatives of corporate underwriters Vertex Standard USA, Inc. and *CQ* Communications, Inc.

As "Young Ham of the Year," Patrick Clark will receive, courtesy of Vertex Standard USA, an expense-paid trip to the 2001 Huntsville Hamfest, along with a gift of Yaesu Amateur Radio equipment. *CQ* magazine will treat Patrick to an expense-paid week in Spacecamp Huntsville, and will present him with a variety of *CQ* products. Amateur Radio Newsline will provide Patrick with a commemorative plaque at the award ceremony. The cost of year's plaque has been underwritten by Dave Bell, W6AQ.

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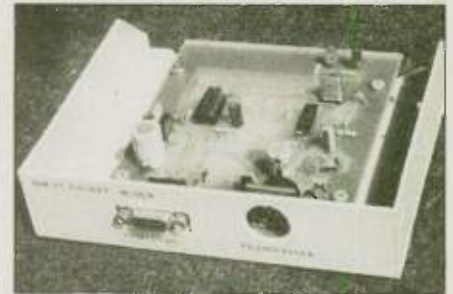
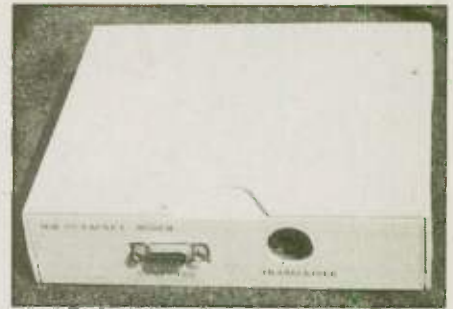
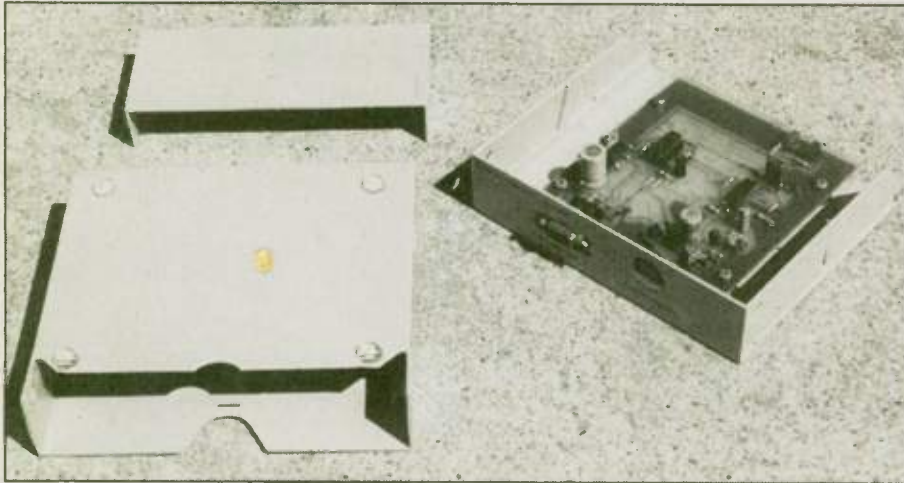
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# Ready-made project boxes



Robert D. Casey, KF6KC

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the price of enclosures in an electronic parts catalog.

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## St. Mary's Island, AS096

Sri Bhat, VU2SBJ

**T**he St. Mary's Island (constituent part of AS096 group of Isles) is about 3 kilometers from the coast of Malpe in the Udupi district. The island is barren and uninhabited, with no shelter or drinking water. About 400 x 150 meters in size, the small island is often explored by tourists who visit the island for a few hours usually on weekends when

a few boats offer services from the Malpe coast. The boat trip takes about 25 minutes from the Malpe coast to the island. Some boats can't go all the way to the island, and tourists are transferred into a smaller boat for the remainder of the journey. Some other types of boats move all the way from coast to the island. Overnight stays on the island are restricted by the police authorities of the district.

Beginning at about 0530 UTC on

Saturday, 05 May 2001, the IOTA station was on the air almost continuously until about 0030 UTC on Monday, 7 May. Utilizing 10 operators, this IOTA event operated four stations on phone and CW on various bands simultaneously.

Despite uncertainties with the weather, the IOTA expedition to AS096, St. Mary's Island, was a grand success. The total count of logged QSOs crossed 3,500 in the less than 40 hours of effective operating time. Logs are still being sorted out and more statistics will soon be available. It is our desire to QSL every QSO logged. A well-planned event by the Manipal and the Mangalore amateurs, the IOTA expedition was the first of its kind for all of the operators who participated. Hoping WPC's approval will come in on time, which eventually did, other coordinating efforts began just a few days prior to the scheduled date.

The team that took part included Manikant, VU2JRO; Bhat, VU2NJJ; Sri, VU2SBJ; Gopi, VU2GPH; VU2MHC (MIT Ham Club, Manipal) from Manipal and Mur, VU2MTT; Chets VU3DMP; Pai, VU2PAI; Prakash, VU2JIX; Rohit, VU2RDQ and Sukanya, VU2RDJ from Mangalore. SWL Laxminidhi from Manipal and two others from the Mangalore Coast Guard also accompanied the team.

An enormous amount of luggage

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was carried. The six lead acid batteries (two extras) probably were the bulkiest items. A very useful sledge prepared by VU2RDQ was a boon to move the batteries. About 250 liters of drinking water, and another 50 liters for 'other' purposes came second in line in terms of bulk. Tarpaulins, bamboo staves for tents, aluminum masts, radio equipment and antennas came in next. Due to forecasts calling for rain, adequate waterproofing for equipment (worth our life for most of us), utensils for cooking, and food were the other components of the luggage that was carried. Rain and a flat tire delayed our start by about 60 minutes. Eventually after a quick breakfast specially arranged by VU2NJJ at the wee hours of the morning at a hotel in Udipi, we reached Malpe and began unloading stuff from a mini truck and three other cars at about 7:45 a.m. on Saturday. It took about 30 minutes to load the boat, and a similar amount of time to unload after about 25 minutes of travel to the island. It was drizzling and the sky was dark so you can imagine the uncertainty in our minds. Fortunately, it was not windy. The boat people refuse to travel if it is windy.

After we landed on the island and unloaded all the stuff using a human chain, it took us about 4 hours to get most of the things in place and to set up two stations. Fortunately it stopped raining. (Later the temperature went up to as high as 42 C). We were the only people on the island then. A very useful tip from K2KW encouraged us to install at least one vertical with the mast right in the sea water. You have got to see to believe how dramatically it improves the performance of the antenna. It was comparable to that of the other beams that were erected. (For more details on the special performance of verticals in salt water, visit <http://www.k2kw.com/k5k/dxcomp.htm>)

Propagation conditions from St.

Mary's Island was overall moderate with solar flux showing 165 points on Saturday and 160 points on Sunday. The peak was showing a downtrend in the coming days.

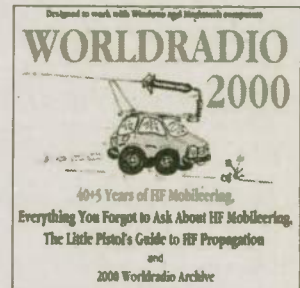
The 10-meter band was good on 5 May from 1200 to 1500Z with a huge pileup from Europe. There were stations from North America, South America, JA's, and VK's coming through as well.

Conditions on 15 Meters were exceptionally good and the pileup from Europe was tremendous from 1700 to 2000Z. Some stations from North America/South America were also strong on 15M. However, 20, 17 and 12-meter bands were not encouraging on 5 May. But we logged lots of stations on 12M on 6 May. The 20-meter band improved on 6 May with stations from Europe, North America and South America coming through pretty well. Overall, the 17-meter band was quite moderate. We did our best to log maximum QSOs with optimum band propagation and minimum operating time.

We stopped operations early in the morning on the 7th. The specially hired boat was to pick us up at 7 a.m. It arrived right on time. We were almost done disassembling all the stations and the other stuff. It's amazing how much less time it takes to pull down a station as compared to setting it up! It took us less than 90 minutes to get all the stuff back to one place. We reached on the shore of Malpe at 9 a.m. A promisingly busy day at work for each of us looked certain. Nevertheless, it was worth every minute of the fun we had on ASØ96.

The small effort to publicize the IOTA event on the web paid off well. Though the event was confirmed just a few days prior to the event, the good response on the band made all efforts towards our maiden IOTA expedition very worth while.

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World Radio History

# DXpeditioning on a shoestring

Henry Kotowski, SMØJHF

I usually take more wire than the length of a shoestring. A reel of 100 meters is my standard — just in case. My budget is always tight and I would never spend thousands of dollars on going somewhere and working a pileup day after day. I don't make much money and couldn't afford it in the first place. But some people do it; easy come easy go.

Amateur Radio is, of course, fun — but it is only a spice in my life.

When I travel I want to see places and meet people. Some of the places I have visited recently sound exotic to most Americans, but these destinations are easy to reach from Stockholm, Sweden where I have my home.

Most Northern Europeans travel intensively to the south because of the



Approaching Madeira, northeastern coast

climate, long holidays and good income. I am flexible and can make decisions about going somewhere on short notice and thus can take advantage of package trips offered for a fraction of the original price.

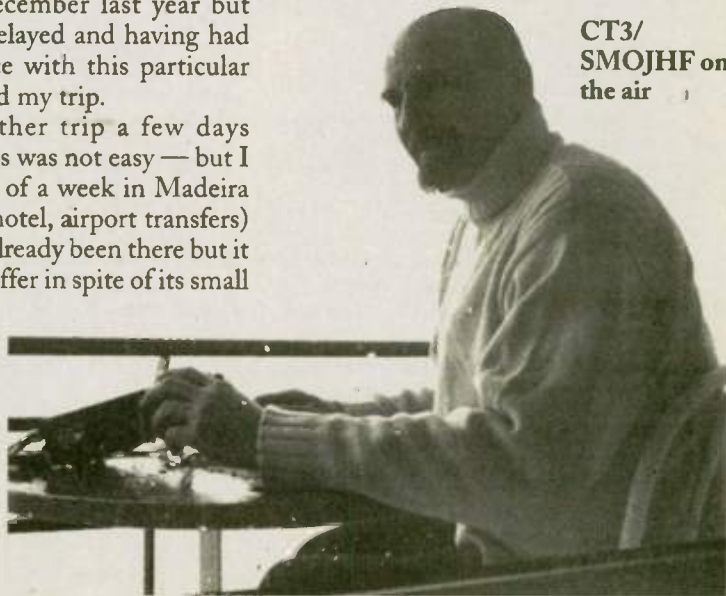
One such destination is Madeira (CT3). It counts as Africa yet it is a region of Portugal. There are numerous flights from most European countries, excellent infrastructure, beautiful and diversified nature, a hundred microchmates and two hundred Hams. I was actually going to the Dominican Republic in December last year but the flight was delayed and having had a bad experience with this particular carrier I canceled my trip.

Finding another trip a few days before Christmas was not easy — but I spotted an offer of a week in Madeira (flight, modest hotel, airport transfers) for \$150. I had already been there but it has so much to offer in spite of its small size I go there often. I went to Funchal, the capital, located on the southern slope of the island. I did not even bother to attempt to set

up an antenna there. The only open direction is South Atlantic and this is not the right direction if you want to have a decent QSO rate. Of course, there are a few ZD7's and maybe a ZD9 but they were not the objective of my radio activity.

I phoned Luis, CT3EE, who I know personally. He helped me to get in touch with another Luis, CT3DL. CT3DL is the president of the local organization, ARRM. He runs a flower store just a hundred yards from the

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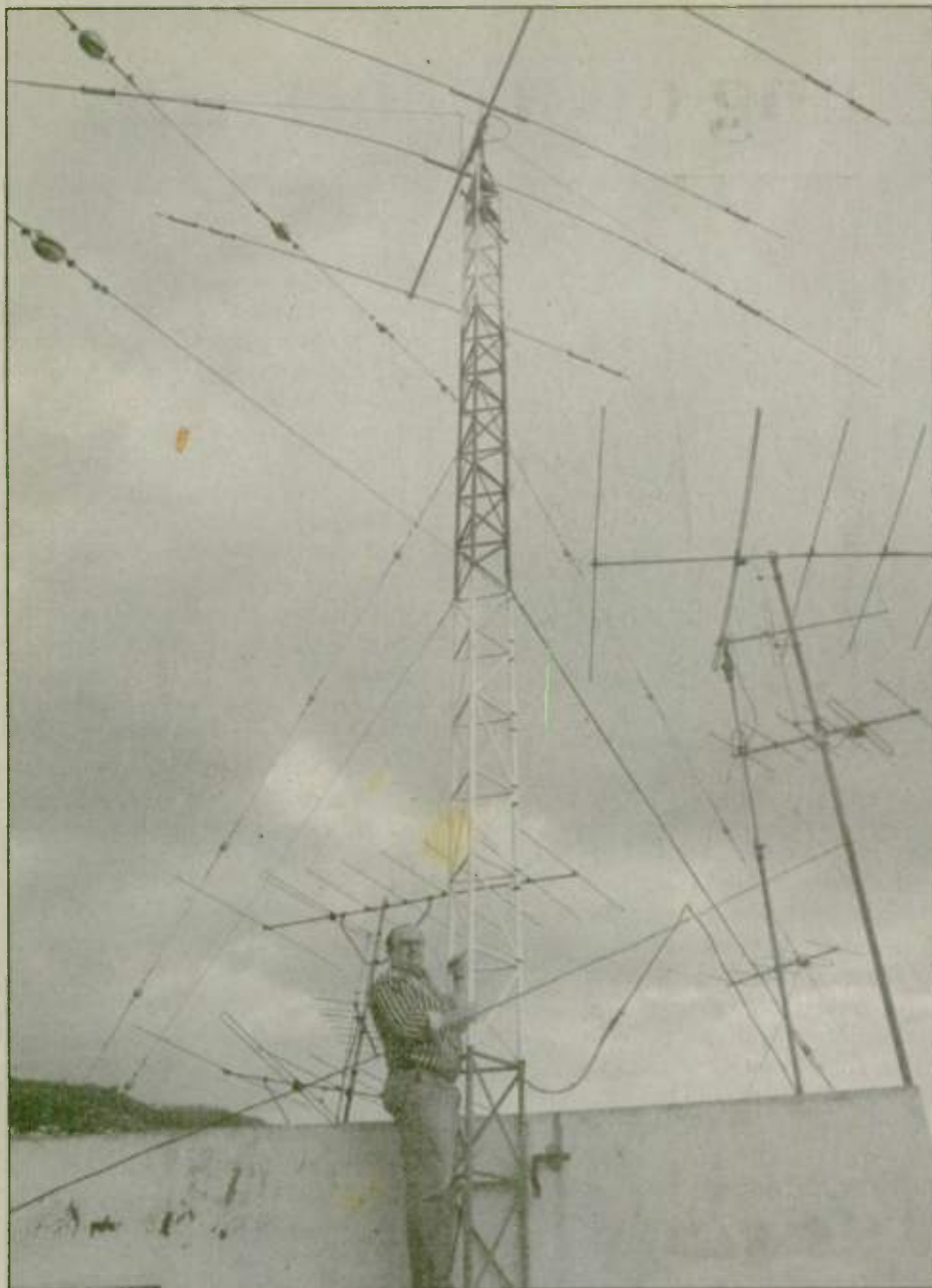


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World Radio History



Group picture in front of the ARRM in Funchal, Madeira (not in order: CT3LG, CT3KJ, CT3KR, CT3KU, MAB, CT3KT, CT3KB, CT3KN, CT3HF).

hotel where I was staying. Both Luis's were busy because of the approaching

holiday season and could not come to the club on Saturday when I took the group picture. The club has a nice place at its disposal courtesy of the local government. It's located at the bottom floor of a block of flats at 136A, Avenue of the USA. While there I met a few of the club's 200 members — both young and old. It seems that there is hope for Amateur Radio in Madeira!

During my visit I rented a small car to explore the island. Renting a car is easy and cheap (something like \$25 a day), but most tourists are afraid of

winding and narrow roads, steep cliffs or simply driving — so there isn't much traffic. Downtown Funchal is another story — traffic is just like any other congested large town.

I spent most of the time going to the West, East and North. The northern coast is extremely attractive from my point of view. The scenery is different there, the coast is perpetually attacked by northern winds and storms... and it's open towards Europe and North America.

I found an unusual hotel, Cabanas de Sao Jorge, consisting of a village of round huts and stayed there for a couple of days. I suspended a random wire from my room to some trees down below and connected the automatic antenna tuner and the IC706. The wire worked on all bands from 6 to 160M.

I was on the air evenings and morn-



Luis, CT3DL, the president of ARRM and a florist

ings and was amazed by excellent signal reports on different bands from hundreds of stations — even as far away as Japan. It is still possible to create a pile up from CT3, even with a piece of wire. I managed to talk to Cedric CT3FT on 50 MHz and Dietmar, CT3/DL3DXX, on 1.8 MHz, both on the nearby island of Porto Santo. During the day I was cruising along the coast, going down to fishing villages and almost climbing to the snow covered peaks of the mountains. Back in Funchal, while walking in the very center of town, I spotted an HF Yagi antenna that I had not seen before. I

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Joao, CT31J, in his kitchen radio shack.

consulted a current listing of licenced amateurs that I had obtained from the ARRM, easily identified the owner of this antenna and rang the bell. Joao gladly showed me around — the roof and the shack. In the kitchen, his full size radio is placed among onions and bananas. Joao is a relatively new amateur but like most of CT's he had earlier interest in CB. CB is extremely popular in many countries, a fact that many Amateur Radio organizations ignore. But not in Madeira! Classes are organized and help is given to upgrade to a regular Ham license. The local government supports Amateur Radio in many ways — buying 2 meter repeaters, allowing a contest station and the HF beacon to be set up on their grounds and letting the club use the rooms of the their headquarters building free of charge.

A matter of concern for the ARRM is cooperation with the mainland Amateur Radio organization, REP, in Lisbon. One example of the lack of cooperation is the fact that QSL cards are not being forwarded to Madeira.

By the way, I don't collect any QSL cards so if we have the pleasure of a QSO and you need my card, please send a request, direct or via e-mail. ☺

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WORLDRADIO, September 2001 21

# What goes around comes around

Bill Wach, KF2JK

I'm sure we all have some part of our hobby past that we look back on in fond memory of those days as a kid discovering the wonders of this great hobby. I remember my first kit; it was an S-38 that I saved up for. I'm sorry to say it never worked even after many attempts to locate the problem, I never knew if my father was disappointed in me or felt sorry that I didn't have a radio.

One day the S-38 was gone and when dad got home he had a box I thought it might be a repaired S-38. To my surprise it was a brand-new short-wave receiver. I guess he knew how much I liked the hobby and wanted me to continue my interest in not only SWL but also electronics. Maybe he saw it as the future.

I would spend hours listening to broadcast stations from all over the world, but the thing that got me were those funny sounds on certain parts of the dial. I found out later it was the Amateur Radio bands and I just had to learn more about those sounds — Morse code. My antenna was a long wire running from my bedroom window to the roof of my grandfather's tool shed in back of us, favoring east and west.

One day my dad was meeting with an old navy buddy and asked me to come along. I knew him as Sammy. We met him for lunch and they talked about the war, WWII. He asked me what I was interested in and both my father and I replied, short wave radio. His eyes lit up and he said, "do you know the code?" I said no but I would like to, he reached for a pencil and began to write the code on a napkin, I found out later from dad that Sammy was a radio operator in the navy.

As the years went by I knew the code well and got my novice ticket and upgraded from there, my family grew and my career got better, but I never lost my love for the hobby. I built lots of kits along the way and THEY ALL

**"In the corner next to one of the tube sockets were the letters BW — my initials!"**

WORKED. My first was an HW16 and a VFO to match, then as a General Class operator I built an HW101 — I wish I still had that rig. Now I have a new Kenwood and by its side are a pair of Drake twins along with an FT101.

I still like the old stuff and I am always looking for the ones I couldn't afford back in those early day as a dreamer. One day I was putting up a new antenna and needed new coax. I visited the local communications store

for the item needed. As I walked in and said hello to the owner, I turned to where I knew the spools of coax were and saw two shelves of classic receivers and one of them was an S-38. Wow, did that bring back memories! I asked the owner how much he wanted for it. Although it looked a little rough I thought the price wasn't bad, so I not only walked out of there with my coax, but with a classic from the past. I put the antenna project on hold so I could play with the 38 for a while, I had quite a tube collection and wanted to see if I had any of the ones that made this old rig come to life. Although it was in working order I wanted to know what tubes were used. I removed the top cover and looked around spotting some of the ones I knew I had and then I saw it — I couldn't believe my eyes! In the corner next to one of the tube sockets were the letters BW — my initials! I scratched them in after I built my own S-38 radio way back then — could this be? Is this my first kit? I called the store and asked the owner where he got the radio, but he couldn't remember, all he told me was that he had it for some time and when it came in it didn't work.

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# Silent Keys

## Norman J. Foot, WA9HUV

Amateur Radio pioneer Norman J. Foot, WA9HUV, died 5 June in Elmhurst, Illinois. He was an Electrical Engineer, and started his career in radio with the E.F. Johnson Company in the mid 1930s. In 1942, Mr. Foot moved his family to Chicago and went to work for Bill Halligen, the founder of Hallicrafters. Norm co-wrote many, many articles with Mr. Halligen, such as "A New Tuning System for the Amateur Receiver" — still referenced in many recent histories of the Hallicrafters Corporation.

During WWII, Hallicrafters was associated with the Northrup Corporation. Norm continued on as Engineering Manager helping to design many of the military microwave defense systems as well as early radar systems. During this time he was sequestered at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology working on projects from radar to portable transmitters including the SCR-299 mobile station.

After the war ended, Mr. Foot continued to work in defense-related fields. Among his many projects was

an electronic counter-measures system designed to make the SR-71 spy plane invisible to enemy radar.

His work kept him away from home for weeks at a time, including some work done at "Area 51" — the not-so-secret installation in Nevada. He retired in 1980 and started Footronics — his own RF and microwave consulting firm. He continued to write articles for the Amateur Radio community and helped firms develop products that used RF. — *WD9ABG, W6CUB, Chicago Tribune*

## Arnold C. Perry, KL7BT

A communicator in both his hobby and in his professional life, Arnold "A.C." Perry died 16 March in Wasilla, Alaska.

He served in the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression days, then went into the Army Air Corps as a ground radio man, transferring in 1941 to the Alaskan Communications System, (ACS). He later joined the Army Airways Communications System (AACS) serving until 1948 when he retired with the rank of staff sergeant.

"A.C." held various positions with several government agencies that took him to many isolated posts — from Death Valley, California, to the far north in Alaska and Greenland. He was an "Elmer" to many Hams and as an avid amateur his collection of electronic equipment literally filled his basement. "A.C." was eager to try any equipment that provided better communications than he had. — *W6QEU*

## Chet Atkins, W4CGP

Chet Atkins, W4CGP, whose guitar style influenced several generations of country and rock musicians died 30 June at his home in Nashville Tennessee after a long battle with cancer.

He was born Chester Burton Atkins on 20 June 1924, on a farm in Luttrell, Tennessee, some twenty miles northeast of Knoxville. While his brother urged him to learn to play the fiddle, Chet took a fondness to the guitar early on. According to his internet biography, at the age of nine, he traded a pistol for a guitar.

During his long and illustrious career, Chet Atkins recorded more than 75 albums of guitar instrumentals and sold more than 75 million records. He played on hundreds of hit recordings including Elvis Presley's "Heartbreak Hotel" and the Everly Brothers "Wake Up Little Susie." But it was not until 1988 when the ARRL released its promotional video "The New World of Amateur Radio" that most of Ham radio learned that the world's greatest guitar picker was also one of them. — *Newsline*

## Vera M. Tallman, K4ICA

Vera Mayree Tallman, K4ICA, of Mt Pleasant, Tennessee, died 19 June 2001. She was founder and past president of YL International SSBers (<http://www.qsl.net/yl-issb/>). She also was a nurse and one of the first airline stewardesses for American Airlines in Little Rock, Arkansas. A service was held 23 June in Mt. Pleasant. — *KS4TD, The Daily Herald, ARRL Letter*

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IECARO was started in 1996. It includes Riverside, San Bernardino, and Inyo Counties. It is comprised of approximately 15 Amateur Radio Clubs. As an ARRL Affiliated Council, IECARO periodically sponsors the annual ARRL Southwestern Division Convention, sharing this task with other councils in the Southwestern Division. Member Organizations collectively join together as Partners and share in the labors of holding the convention. IECARO's first convention was held in Riverside in September 1997 with the next scheduled for September 2001.



# Special Events

## ARRL Southwestern Convention

ARRL Southwestern Division Convention will be on the air as special event station W1AW/6 from 1900UTC 7 Sep. to 1900UTC 9 Sep. (24 hour operation may be possible, as long as there's contacts to be made!). Suggested frequencies are: 3.530, 7.030, 14.030, 21.030 and 28.030 MHz CW — 3.860, 7.250, 14.250, 21.350 and 28.450 MHz SSB. Local contacts can be made on 146.52 MHz FM. There will be three stations on the air, with SSB, CW and a little PSK31 and SSTV. All Hams attending the convention are welcome to be a guest operator.

QSL cards are available by sending a #6 SASE to Fred Roberts, W6TKV, 5464 Peacock Lane, Riverside, CA 92505. DX QSLs will be sent via the QSL Buro. For more info: Fred Roberts, W6TKV, phone: 909/687-8145; e-mail: w6tkv@arrl.net or web page: [www.pe.net/~froberts/page7.html](http://www.pe.net/~froberts/page7.html).

## Bicycle Tour

Members of the Tualatin Valley ARC will be joined by other Amateur Radio

operators in providing communications assistance for Cycle Oregon 2001, 8 - 15 Sep. for Oregon's desert region around Steens Mountain. The club will be operating special event station W7OTV from a focus location each day (Sep. 8 eve. only, 15 Sep. morning only.) Time of operation will be 6 - 8 a.m. and 6 - 8 p.m. each evening. Suggested frequencies are 7.290, 14.290 and 28.490 MHz. Hams making contact will receive a special award marking their achievement. Send QSL cards to P.O. Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

## Railroad Museum

The Starke County ARC will operate special event station W9JOZ from the depot operator bay at the Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum, north Judson, Indiana 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 8 Sept. Those attending the event will be treated to free train and motorcar rides. Suggested frequencies are: 7.240, 7.190 and 14.290. Send QSL's to: W9JOZ, 405 W. Jackson St., Knox, IN 46534.

## Silver Jubilee

The Lakeland ARC, K4LKL, will

operate a special event station to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club from 0000Z 15 Sep. to 2359Z 16 Sep. Suggested frequencies are: 7.240, 14.250, 21.365 and 28.380 MHz SSB — 7.030, 14.050, 21.050 and 28.050 MHz CW. For a special certificate, send your QSL and an SASE to Lakeland ARC, P.O. Box 792, Eaton Park, FL 33840.

## University of Texas, Austin

Celebrating 80 years of Amateur Radio at the University of Texas at Austin, the UT ARC will operate K5T from 29 Sep - 7 Oct. The operation will take place from the on-campus club station and will be a multi-operator station. The club will be on all bands—160 meters to 70 and 23 cm. They'll be using SSB and CW on the HF and VHF/UHF weak signal bands and will also operate RTTY and PSK31. A special K5T QSL card will be available. For more info, including the QSL route, see: <http://n5xu.ae.utexas.edu/80years/>.

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## Contact All Time Zones

In commemoration of *Worldradio's* 25th Anniversary in 1996, we first offered the "Contact All Time Zones" (CATZ) award.

### • Rules

The start date for valid contacts is 01 July 1996 at 0000Z.

The world is divided into 24 time zones. Each time zone is 15 degrees wide. For the sake of this award, half-hourly zones and out-of-zone artificial time changes will be ignored.

This award is based on the true 15 degrees each, world map 24 time zones.

The applying station must have one (two-way) contact on Amateur Radio allocated frequencies with a station in each of the world's 24 time zones. Contact with one's own nation does not count.

The operator applying for the award must have made all 24 contacts from a location within the same country.

The award may be endorsed as the

applicant wishes in regard to band and/or modes.

### • Application

The applying radio operator must be in possession of 24 QSL cards, one from each of the time zones.

A list shall be made showing each contact's call sign, date, band, mode and the time zone starting with the prime meridian (0°) and moving eastward.

There is a fee of \$5 to cover the cost and mailing of the 8 x 10 certificate (mailed unfolded).

It is not necessary to mail your QSL cards to *Worldradio*. Send a statement signed by two other licensed radio amateurs (General Class or above) that they have inspected and verified the required QSL cards.

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# Letters to the Editor

## New Hams...

Your editorial comments in the Letters to the Editor in the June issue prompted this reply. This is the first time I have ever submitted a comment to an Amateur Radio publication, but your comments struck home.

Let me begin by stating that I am a fairly new Ham. I was first licensed in 1989, and received my Extra Class license in 1990. No, I didn't have to build a spark radio for the FCC to get my license. I just took a multiple choice test (and a 20 wpm code test).

I have read the letters from the Hams who feel that we have relegated Amateur Radio to the CB level by lowering the code requirements, and the death of Ham radio cannot be far behind. In your response to the Letter to the Editor, you drove home some important points.

At our radio club meetings, we do a miserable job of welcoming new Hams. It is easier to condemn new amateurs than to welcome them into the fold. I am sick and tired of hearing the comments about no code Hams, and using that as a justification for ignoring them.

There is only one way to bring the new members of the Amateur Radio fraternity up to the level of competence that many of the senior members of the fraternity deem desirable. That involves close contact with those newer members. I realize it is easy to sit back and complain about the lack of competence among many newer Hams, but it may be necessary to ask yourself "what have I done to improve the situation?"

As I noted earlier, I am a comparatively new amateur. However, I have discovered that one of the true joys of Amateur Radio is teaching Novice and Technician classes. I have been fortunate enough to have many younger people in my classes (ages 7 - 13). I always explain to the younger members of my classes that they are to police the instructor. If I use any terms that they don't understand they are to speak up, because adults are reluctant to admit what they don't know. If you

think that you know all there is to know about Amateur Radio, try teaching a class — It's an excellent lesson in humility! More than once I have had to say "I don't know, but will have an answer for you next week."

Of course, when you teach classes, you involuntarily become an Elmer. I have spent many an hour helping erect antennas and set up stations. I have also spent many a rewarding hour (at my shack or theirs) helping many new Hams with their first contact (particularly on CW). Incidentally, over 50% of the graduates of my classes have gone on to get their Extra Class licenses. Why is that? Because they were shown that CW can be fun! Of course, some of the graduates are still Technicians; but they are still good Hams. Younger students love CW — it's a secret code that most adults don't understand!

So, my point is this: If you don't like the changes taking place in Amateur Radio today, don't sit back and gripe about it. If you really want to change things, get off your duff and get involved. Spend the time that you are currently spending writing that letter to the editor deploring the current state of hamdom on working with younger Hams and you will not only find that you are enjoying yourself, but you are contributing to the growth of our great hobby.

Jess Young, W8JY  
(via e-mail)

## Still more on attitudes...

I am writing in response to the letter by William E. Caldwell, WA8ABE in the July 2001 issue. I get the impression that this is one unhappy character. In his letter he states that VE's all get paid. Nothing could be further from the truth. True, some instances of VE's selling licenses have been uncovered in the recent past but, to state that all of us are "getting paid for our trouble is a gross insult to all of the honest VE's who give their time, and risk their licenses to provide a service.

I have been a VE since 1993 and I have never left an exam session with a penny more than I started with. It has been drilled into me the need for honesty and to avoid even the appearance of any wrongdoing.

It seems that there are quite a few Hams today who spend less time enjoying a hobby and more time looking for someone to condemn. Many seem to forget that Ham radio is first a hobby and not a job or obligation. If you don't like things as they are then you can leave. In the same issue is a letter from Larry Woody, KC5UVG, who points out how hard it was to find Hams who were willing to help him earn a license. How many of the Hams who write letters complaining about the way radio is today are the same Hams who refuse to help a newcomer learn the hobby? I say if you don't like the way someone is operating on the air you should be willing to help them learn or else you have no right to talk.

We should really be a fraternity of radio fans and learn to respect each other for the different interests we have in the hobby before we manage to fight among ourselves enough to see the spectrum given away to another group or industry who can get along. We all have something in common — we are all Amateur Radio operators who cared enough to study and earn our licenses. Why can't we act like that when we interact? The license structure has changed once again. This isn't the first time and I doubt it will be last. CW may pass as a license requirement but I can't see it disappearing from the bands.

I hope Mr. Caldwell and others like him can find some pleasure in Ham radio and find it with in themselves to share some of their many years of experience with those of us who are younger and

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haven't seen what they have. Put away the anger and share the knowledge they possess before it's too late and they are all gone. This hobby has been around for the better part of 100 years and much of that history has already been lost. Lets not lose the rest by fighting and falling into petty little groups of us vs. them. I am proud to be a Ham and this kind of thing will not put me out of the hobby I worked hard to enter!

**Don Cripe, KE3MM**  
(via e-mail)

This is in reply to Mr. Willam E. Caldwell, Sr., WA8ABE, Letter to the Editor in *Worldradio*, July 2001. Mr. Caldwell has made some statements which are not substantiated by fact. "We have been spoiling the new Hams for much too long, in the name of new amateurs" etc.

A number of years ago, as one of several instructors in Ham radio classes, I can vouch that no special treatment took place. Facts were taught. Tests were impartially administered and graded accordingly. Both instructors and students actually enjoyed the experience. Incidentally, many of the students who came from the CB ranks are now damn good Hams. "Good" not because I say so, but because many went on to participate in public service activities and some stepped in to aid incoming students.

WA8ABE ignores what in my judgment is the prime reason for enlarging our Ham ranks. Today, there is a crying need from practically all communication services for more radio spectrum. Eyes have been cast on the Ham bands. We need much new blood with the concomitant result of more Hams available for public service. This in turn, will continue to justify our use of this valuable radio spectrum. I hasten to add more does not imply a diminution of the quality of those new Hams entering our ranks.

Mr. Caldwell, the volunteers who man the various radio classes around the country are just that — volunteers! No pay, period. A single question would have given you the answer instead of dogmatically stating "all VEC examiners get paid for their trouble."

The ARRL represents its membership before the FCC, congressional members and a host of entities. No one "grovels" when the League does this. Factual accounts from those in attendance as well as minutes of the meetings suggest a

mutual exchange of information.

Mr. Caldwell and I can agree on one thing, however, we enjoy *QST*!

Mr. Larry Wood, KC5UVG, in his letter to the editor of *Worldradio*, July 2001, concludes with these five words... "who have you helped lately?" Beautiful words to live by in this day and age of modern Ham communications.

**Charles E. Ziegler, W8RV**  
**Columbus, OH**

### 1.52 — do you?...

The article by J.D. Harper (K6KSR), "1.52-do you?" is great advice for the FM crowd. Instead of hanging out with the clique groups on the repeaters, more people should try 146.52. You will be amazed at how far you can work without repeaters.

I have been involved with FM on 2 Meters since 1969. Back then, the names Inoue (ICOM), Yaesu, and Kenwood were unheard of in this country. FM rigs bore such names as Progress Line and "pre-Prog" (GE), Motrac (Motorola), and Carfone (RCA), as many of us converted surplus land mobile radios to the amateur band. The original FM calling frequency on 2 Meters was 146.94 Mc (at the time, Hertz was a car rental company). It was used for simplex in some areas and became a repeater output in others. 146.76 was also used for this purpose in some areas, much as 146.55 and 146.58 are today.

There is one error in the article. Unlike the case of CB, where the FCC had designated 27.065 MHz (channel 9) as an emergency channel and 27.085 MHz (channel 11) as a calling channel (no longer reserved), 146.52 MHz was never designated as the 2-meter national calling/simplex frequency by the FCC. 146.52 came into widespread use as a simplex frequency when .76 and .94 began filling up with repeaters. This happened before the ARRL got into the act and began setting up its bandplan for 2 Meters. The designation of 146.52 MHz as the national calling frequency is in the ARRL bandplan, but it does not exist anywhere in Part 97. The FCC did set aside subbands within the 2-meter band for CW (144.0-144.1) and repeaters (144.5-145.5 and 146-148 MHz), but the Commission never designated any spot frequencies for specific purposes.

**Phil Galasso, K2PG**  
(via e-mail)



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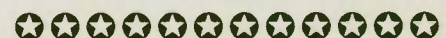
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# Station Appearance

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## Al Schwartz, W7LAH

I was first licensed in the mid-1940's and have been licensed for a total of 54 years. I work all bands from 80 through 2 Meters with the exception of 6 Meters.

On a whim one day, I built a home-made rack system to house the hodge-podge collection of Amateur Radio gear. On the left is a RadioShack HTX-212 2-meter transceiver, power

supplies and SWR Bridge along with a speaker and power supply/voltmeter.

In the center rack in an Icom 737 HF transceiver, home-made antenna switch, RF amp meter, speaker, rotator control for the beam antenna and an AC line voltage meter.

On the right rack is a RadioShack scanner, SWR/watt meter, clock and speaker.

The desk is your typical government surplus type gray metal desk. It's nothing fancy, but it does the job for me. The station may not be as fancy as some of the others I've seen, but I wanted to keep it basic, but still functional and roomy enough for some additional gear when the time comes.



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## W-100-N

Only one application for Worked 100 Nations was processed in June and was issued to a DX station:  
**604. Chatchai Varavisuthsarakul HS1NGR**

## CATZ

In honor of the resident *Worldradio* cats we have two applications for that award, aka Contact All Time Zones:

**44. Edward P. Madison W2SN**

**45. Samuel D.L. Moore, II K7SAM**

When applying for the above award it would be appreciated that locations of the stations listed be included. Many nations include more than one time zone and this eliminates me having to guess where they are.

## Maldiv Islands (8Q)

Bernie McClenny, W3UR, in his *The Daily DX*, reports that Pierre Pasteur, HB9QQ, will be back in the Maldiv Islands (AS-013) the last week of October and the first week of November signing with 8Q7QQ from Gan Island, approximately 250 kilometers south of the equator.

Activity is mostly planned for 6 Meters with a 4 element wide spaced yagi and an Icom IC-746 with 100 watts. When 6 Meters is closed look for him on 10, 12, 17 and 30 Meters CW. Also check 28.885 MHz.

## Bhutan (A5)

*The Daily DX* reports that Yeshey Dorji, A51AA, will have a group of American amateurs and others visiting him in Bhutan this October.

## Madagascar (5R)

425 *DX News* notes that Jack Main-guy, F6BUM, will be in Madagascar (AF-013) between 2 and 27 September. He may also operate from IOTA islands (AF-090) 3 to 7 September, and (AF-057) 23 to 26 September. His preference is CW.

And, according to *The Daily DX*, Albert, 5R8O, is now 5R8GZ. His 5R8O was a special call issued by the Malagasy Authority Transmission

because the station was being operated from Antananarivo Gendarmerie County. Albert can typically be found operating CW on 10, 15 and 20 Meters.

## Chesterfield Islands (FK)

The September planned DXpedition to the Chesterfield Islands by Bill Horner, VK4FW, and the ODXG has been postponed and/or canceled. This DXpedition had been scheduled for September and was canceled due to the lack of operators committed to making the trip.

## Somalia (T5)

*The Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin* says that Bruce Richards, WD4NGB, has been issued the call T5DX by the new Transitional Government that was put into office last year. His license is valid for one year beginning with 1 July 2001. We don't know when Bruce will go there.

In June Baldu Drobnic, DJ6SI, and Tom Lind, DL1QW, were active from this one signing with T5X and T5W and collected some 14,000 contacts between the two of them. QSL requests should be sent via their home calls.

## Ducie Island (VP6)

*The Daily DX* reports that the Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association announces that it will undertake an IOTA DXpedition to Ducie Island (OC-182), with operations to begin at 0000 UTC on 16 November 2001. This operation will utilize three sta-

tions operating around the clock, with emphasis on providing contacts to as many different individual stations as possible.

The leader of the DXpedition is well known operator Tom Christian, VP6TC, president of PIARA. Other DXpedition members include Dave Brown, VP6DB; Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK/VP6BK; Hiroyoshi Tamama, JA1SLS/VP6BB; Jin Fujiwara, JF1IST; and three other operators to be named later. This international DXpedition will be attempting to provide worldwide coverage for this rare island. Satellite log checking is planned by the team.

The Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association has filed an application for membership in the IARU. This application has been approved by Region III, and the application has been forwarded to the full membership of the IARU for final approval.

Support for this DXpedition is being provided by Yaesu (Vertex Standard), Create Design, and Suzuki Motors.

The QSL Manager will be Garth Hamilton, VE3HO, and the Pilot station will be Dr. Bill Avery, K6GNX.

## North Cook Islands (ZK1/N)

Don't forget that DXpedition to the North Cook Islands headed by Victor Rivera, ZK1CG, in October, (see July *DX World*). According to *The Daily DX*, the multi-national group will also include the South Cook Islands in their tour, from mid-October through mid-November. Their first stop will be Manihiki Island (OC-014), in the North Cook Islands between 18 October and 1 November, where they will also participate in *CQ Worldwide DX Contest* as ZK1CG.

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WORLD RADIO, September 2001 31

Cook Islands where they will operate from Rarotonga Island (OC-013), in the South Cook Islands between 1 and 13 November. Activity is expected on 2 through 160 Meters (excluding 30 Meters) on CW and SSB.

The team operators will include: Ralph Parker, VE7XF; John Haworth, AA7PM; Bob Preston, W7TSQ; Roger Huntley, W7VV; Tuatai Tupou, ZK1MA; and Victor, ZK1CG. It is interesting to note that Tuatai is licensed as ZK1MA on Manihiki Island and I wonder if they will use that call outside the contest.

The team is asking for financial assistance. Contributions may be sent to Roger at 13710 235th Street, Snohomish, WA 98296, USA. Donations of \$20 will receive a sand sample from Manihiki North Cooks. Donations of \$100 or more receive a Manihiki Pearl Shell to mount on your wall or desk or use as an ashtray. Donations of \$500 or more receive a Black Pearl from Manihiki Lagoon and a Pearl shell and a Sand sample.

**IOTA**

Roger Balister, G3KMA, RSGB IOTA Manager, reports on the following acceptable IOTA island groups as of 1 June 2001:

- |                   |                                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| AS-096 VU3DMP     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2GPH     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2JX      | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2JRO     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2MTT     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2NJJ     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2PAJ     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2RDJ     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2RDQ     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-096 VU2SBJ     | St Mary's Island (May 2001)     |
| AS-154 TA0/TT9WDY | Giresun Island (April 2001)     |
| AS-154 TA0/TT9YRE | Giresun Island (April 2001)     |
| EU-065 F6BFH/P    | Molene Island (May 2001)        |
| EU-065 F9IE/P     | Molene Island (May 2001)        |
| OC-129 UT2VU/DU7  | Cebu Island (April 2001)        |
| OC-224 YE8XM/P    | Kai Kecil Island (April 2001)   |
| OC-224 YE8XM/P    | Yamdena Island (April/May 2001) |
| OC-246 YE8XM/P    | Sermata Island (April 2001)     |

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planning several IOTA DXpeditions in the next few months from the following Chilean islands:

- Hornos, CE9C (SA-031) December-January  
 Lennox, CE9L (SA-050) January  
 Nueva, CE9N (SA-050) January  
 Picton, CE9P (SA-050) January  
 Riesco, CE9R (SA-???) February

Check their website at <http://www.qsl.net/ce9c> for further details.

Look for Marcel Dehonin, ON4QM signing with FO0DEH this fall from Pukapuka Island (OC-062), Napuka Island (OC-094) and Hereheretue Island (OC-052).

During the month of June there was a large amount of IOTA activity which is typical of such activity during our warmer months. Some of the calls listed below also included multi-island activity from the same IOTA group. There are such awards as Islands of Scotland Award, which extends beyond IOTA activity where that award accepts credit for individual islands rather than island groups as in IOTA.

- |                   |                    |           |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| AF-019 IG9/14CIL  | Lampedusa Island   | 01 Jun    |
| AF-083 3V8SM      | Djerba Island      | 08-20 Jun |
| AF-090 5R8GY      | Nosy Boraha Island | 01-09 Jun |
| AN-006 EM1HO      | Galindez Island    | 05-27 Jun |
| AS-012 JN3FPV/6   | Kyushu Coastal Is. | 30 Jun    |
| AS-015 9M2/11ETU  | Penang Island      | 01-30 Jun |
| AS-026 HL4HLD     | Cheju Island       | 04-13 Jun |
| AS-032 JA6CTW     | Yaku Island        | 06-30 Jun |
| AS-032 JF6WTY     | Tanega Island      | 29-30 Jun |
| AS-045 HL5FUA     | Ullang Island      | 09 Jun    |
| AS-053 HS0/IK4MRH | Phuket Island      | 04-10 Jun |
| AS-056 JA6GIJ/6   | Danjo Islands      | 09 Jun    |
| AS-056 JA6LCJ/6   | Danjo Islands      | 09-10 Jun |
| AS-056 JA6GXK     | Mejima             | 03-07 Jun |
| AS-056 JA6JPS/6   | Danjo Islands      | 09 Jun    |
| AS-083 UA0QMU/0   | Vilkitsky Island   | 04-30 Jun |
| AS-090 HL0ZX/2    | Soijak Island      | 27-29 Jun |
| AS-094 BD7YC      | Hainan Island      | 09 Jun    |
| AS-103 BV9AAC     | Penghu Island      | 06 Jun    |

- |                     |                     |           |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| AS-117 JH4TEW/4     | Honshu Coastal Is.  | 01-07 Jun |
| AS-147 JI3DST/8     | Okushiri Island     | 02-05 Jun |
| AS-159 YM0KI        | Kefken Island       | 22-24 Jun |
| EU-006 EI/G6UW/P    | Aran Islands        | 19-22 Jun |
| EU-007 E9HQ/P       | Blasket Islands     | 01-03 Jun |
| EU-007 E4GK/P       | Blasket Islands     | 01-03 Jun |
| EU-008 GM0VIV/P     | Inner Hebrides Is.  | 23-29 Jun |
| EU-009 GM0HHT       | Inner Hebrides Is.  | 05-27 Jun |
| EU-010 GM0EY        | Orkney Islands      | 08 Jun    |
| EU-011 M/DL8AAV/P   | Benbecula Island    | 20-30 Jun |
| EU-011 G3HTA/P      | Isles of Scilly     | 01-08 Jun |
| EU-012 GM4LBE       | Isles of Scilly     | 10-22 Jun |
| EU-012 MM5PSL       | Yell Island         | 14 Jun    |
| EU-012 GM0IFM/P     | Shetland Islands    | 01 Jun    |
| EU-016 9A/S50IPA/P  | Unst Island         | 06 Jun    |
| EU-016 9A4W         | Kolocoep Island     | 29-30 Jun |
| EU-016 9A6A         | Brac Island         | 02-20 Jun |
| EU-017 ID9S         | Hvar Island         | 02-30 Jun |
| EU-017 ID9/12AE     | Stromboli Island    | 01-03 Jun |
| EU-028 IA5/1Z5AXB   | Salina Island       | 05-09 Jun |
| EU-028 IA5/1K2DUV   | Gorgona Island      | 16-17 Jun |
| EU-028 IA5/1K3SWA   | Cigliu Island       | 01-08 Jun |
| EU-031 IC8GVV       | Elba Island         | 04-14 Jun |
| EU-031 IC8AMR       | Isle of Capri       | 17 Jun    |
| EU-032 F6KFI/P      | Ischia Island       | 14 Jun    |
| EU-032 F/DJ5MT/P    | Oleron Island       | 04 Jun    |
| EU-033 LA6LN        | Oleron Island       | 12-26 Jun |
| EU-036 LA8LA        | Vesteralen Islands  | 16 Jun    |
| EU-036 LA9VBA       | Hitra Island        | 23-25 Jun |
| EU-037 SK7CA/7      | Frey Island         | 05-30 Jun |
| EU-037 SM7DLZ       | Oland Island        | 30 Jun    |
| EU-037 SM7CRW       | Oland Island        | 11 Jun    |
| EU-045 IB0/1Z0CKJ   | Oland Island        | 03 Jun    |
| EU-045 IB0/1K2DUW   | Ventotene Island    | 23-24 Jun |
| EU-047 DJ9JN        | Ventotene Island    | 18-27 Jun |
| EU-047 DL1BBR       | Norderney Island    | 27 Jun    |
| EU-048 TM1H         | Norderney Island    | 24 Jun    |
| EU-049 SV8/PA3HGP   | Houat Island        | 01-04 Jun |
| EU-049 SV8DCY       | Samos Island        | 06-07 Jun |
| EU-049 SV8CYV       | Lesvos Island       | 08-20 Jun |
| EU-052 SV8CS        | Samos Island        | 04-27 Jun |
| EU-052 SV8/IK0REH/P | Zante Island        | 11-30 Jun |
| EU-052 SV8EP        | Zante Island        | 12-19 Jun |
| EU-056 LA9VDA/P     | Kefalonia Island    | 05-29 Jun |
| EU-057 DL1HSF/P     | Gossen Island       | 16-24 Jun |
| EU-057 DL8AWJ/P     | Ruegen Island       | 01-03 Jun |
| EU-060 SV2FPU/8     | Ummanz Island       | 02-04 Jun |
| EU-063 JW0PK        | Ruegen Island       | 03-09 Jun |
| EU-064 F5LRC/P      | Skyros Island       | 18-28 Jun |
| EU-067 SV8/12VYO    | King Karls Land     | 01-08 Jun |
| EU-067 SV1CEI/8     | Pilier Island       | 24 Jun    |
| EU-072 SV8/1Z2CPP   | Andros Island       | 01-03 Jun |
| EU-075 SV1TP/8      | Tinos Island        | 25-30 Jun |
| EU-079 LA9VDA/P     | Alonissos Island    | 19-29 Jun |
| EU-082 RA1QY/1      | Hydra Island        | 12-22 Jun |
| EU-082 RA1QQ/1      | Soroyane Islands    | 12-15 Jun |
| EU-093 EA5/DK5IM/P  | Kildin Island       | 29-30 Jun |
| EU-096 OH1TD        | Kildin Island       | 29-30 Jun |
| EU-101 OH6MIL       | Tabarca Island      | 01 Jun    |
| EU-107 F6HKA/P      | Korpo Island        | 22-25 Jun |
| EU-107 F6ELE/P      | Skarporen Island    | 23 Jun    |
| EU-110 9A/LY1DS     | Les Sept Iles       | 23-24 Jun |
| EU-110 9A/LY2TA     | Les Sept Iles       | 23 Jun    |
| EU-121 E3JHB        | Sveti Nikola Island | 22-24 Jun |
| EU-122 MI/E17NET/P  | Sveti Nikola Island | 22-24 Jun |
| EU-122 GN3XRQ       | Clear Island        | 30 Jun    |
| EU-125 OZ1RDP       | Rathlin Island      | 24-26 Jun |
| EU-125 OZ/DJ1AA/P   | Rathlin Island      | 02-03 Jun |
| EU-129 DL2BWO/P     | Roemoe Island       | 03-04 Jun |
| EU-129 DL1NGH/P     | Maedoe Island       | 26 Jun    |
| EU-130 IV3/IN3XUG   | Gormitz Island      | 09 Jun    |
| EU-131 IU3THJ       | Usedom Island       | 06-09 Jun |
| EU-132 3Z0WI        | Grado Island        | 23-25 Jun |
| EU-132 HF1UKF       | Venezia Island      | 08 Jun    |
| EU-136 9A6AA        | Wolin Island        | 14-16 Jun |
| EU-153 RA1OHL/P     | Wolin Island        | 10-16 Jun |
| EU-155 IK4HLQ/4     | Losinj Island       | 19-24 Jun |
| EU-155 IK4ALM/P     | Vivginskij Island   | 15-21 Jun |
|                     | Scanno di Piallazza | 09-10 Jun |
|                     | Scanno di Piallazza | 08-09 Jun |

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# DX Prediction — September 2001

Maximum usable frequency from West Coast, Central U.S. and East Coast (courtesy of Engineering Systems Inc., Box 1934, Middleburg, VA 20118). The numbers listed in each section are the average maximum usable frequencies (MUF) in MHz for contacting five major areas of the world centered on Africa—Kenya/Nairobi, Asia—Japan/Tokyo, Oceania—Australia/Melbourne, Europe—Germany/Frankfurt, and South America—Brazil/Rio de Janeiro. Smoothed sunspot number = 109. Chance of contact as determined by path loss is indicated as bold \*MUF for good, plain MUF for fair, and in (parentheses) for poor. UTC in hours.

## CENTRAL U.S.A.

UTC	AFRI	ASIA	OCEA	EURO	SO AM
8	(15)	13	*24	19	*20
10	(20)	12	*21	19	*18
12	29	*16	*18	*25	*29
14	33	14	23	*27	*36
16	*35	(13)	21	*26	*40
18	*35	(12)	(17)	*24	*41
20	*32	22	32	*21	*41
22	*27	*26	*39	14	*43
24	*23	25	*42	*13	*35
2	*21	20	*38	*12	*29
4	*18	16	*34	*11	*25
6	16	14	*28	*12	*22

## WEST COAST

UTC	AFRI	ASIA	OCEA	EURO	SO AM
10	(14)	*14	*25	(12)	*21
12	22	*12	*22	19	18
14	29	*16	*18	25	*30
16	33	*16	21	25	*37
18	*34	20	(17)	23	*41
20	*32	*29	31	18	*42
22	*27	*29	*38	13	*41
24	23	*28	*42	(12)	*39
2	*21	*26	*43	12	*32
4	*18	*21	*40	*15	*27
6	16	*18	*35	13	*23
8	(15)	*15	*29	12	*21

## EAST COAST

UTC	AFRI	ASIA	OCEA	EURO	SO AM
7	19	12	*24	*12	*21
9	22	*12	*21	18	*18
11	*35	*16	*18	*24	*28
13	*41	14	24	*27	*35
15	*41	(13)	21	*27	*38
17	*40	(12)	19	*26	*41
19	*35	18	26	*23	*41
21	*29	24	36	16	*41
23	*25	25	*41	*16	*39
1	*22	20	38	*12	*32
3	*18	15	*34	*12	*27
5	*22	13	28	*13	*23

EU-155 IK4RQJ/P	Scanno di Pialazza	08-10 Jun
EU-170 9A4A	Pag Island	14-21 Jun
EU-170 9A6PKT/P	Pag Island	11-13 Jun
EU-171 OZØITT	Mors Island	14-25 Jun
EU-171 OZ4PAX	Vendsyssel Island	03-30 Jun
EU-171 OZØBB	Mors Island	07-24 Jun
EU-174 J48SAM	Samothraki Island	01-15 Jun
EU-174 J48T	Thassos Island	10 Jun
EU-178 ES1AKM/8	Kihnu Island	29-30 Jun
EU-178 ES1RA/8	Kihnu Island	29-30 Jun
EU-178 ES4BG/8	Kihnu Island	29-30 Jun
EU-184 OH6AW/8	Hailuoto Island	29-30 Jun
EU-187 J49HW/P	Chrysi Island	01-04 Jun
EU-187 J49DX/P	Chrysi Island	01-04 Jun
EU-187 J49NG/P	Chrysi Island	01-03 Jun

NA-034 KM4RX	Anna Maria Island	16-23 Jun
NA-045 XF3/KB5SKN	Isla Mujeres	18-24 Jun
NA-045 XF3/AB5EB	Isla Mujeres	18-24 Jun
NA-046 W1RQ/1	Martha's Vineyard	24-29 Jun
NA-047 W2RA/VYØ	Baffin Island	11-18 Jun
NA-051 VE7QCR	Queen Charlotte Is.	07 Jun
NA-055 N8PW/1	Mount Desert Is.	27-28 Jun
NA-057 HR6/WA9YYY	Roatan Island	17-21 Jun
NA-059 NO7F/KL7	Unalaska Island	28 Jun
NA-066 KM6RY	Santa Catalina Is.	12 Jun
NA-067 KU4OJ	Ocracoke Island	02 Jun
NA-072 HP1XVH	Contadora Island	29 Jun
NA-073 V31TE	Ambergris Caye	24-29 Jun
NA-075 VE7NH	Pender Island	12 Jun
NA-083 WZ3AR/4	Chincoteague Is.	27-30 Jun

NA-110 KD4NJN	Fripp Island	29-30 Jun
NA-110 K9JWV	James Island	06 Jun
NA-110 AA4V	Isle of Palms	02-30 Jun
NA-112 W4LVS/P	Bogue Banks	30 Jun
NA-125 VE2MAM/P	Grande Basque Is.	15-18 Jun
NA-143 AB5EB	Galveston Island	01 Jun
NA-154 VE9GLF/VE1	Pictou Island	19 Jun
NA-154 VE9MY/VE1	Pictou Island	19 Jun
NA-213 K4USI/P	Dauphin Island	20-21 Jun
OC-033 FK8HZ	Lifou Island	07-19 Jun
OC-046 FOØFUJ	Moorea Island	29 Jun
OC-121 3D2LB/P	Beachcomber Is.	06-07 Jun
OC-130 DU8DJ	Mindanao Island	04-20 Jun
OC-137 VK4CY	Lamb Island	10-29 Jun
OC-144 YC4FJJ	Balitung Island	14-18 Jun
OC-195 VK7KPB	Flinders Island	17 Jun
OC-201 ZL1DD	Waiheke Island	07-29 Jun
OC-233 VK7TS/P	Bruny Island	18 Jun
OC-235 DU9BCD	Camiguin Island	07-30 Jun
OC-247 YB8HZ/P	Sabalana Island	12-17 Jun
SA-026 PPSØW	Santa Catarina Is.	10 Jun
SA-088 PSAØ88	Tacami Island	14-16 Jun

## RSGB IOTA MILLENNIUM PROGRAM

Neville Cheadle, G3NUG, reports that 232 applications for the RSGB IOTA Millennium Programme certificates (IOTA 2000) have now been processed by CDXC as of 6 June 2001.

If you still have not applied be sure to do so prior to the end of the year. Send your details to CDXC at g3nug@btinternet.com. There are no charges for these awards. The certificates are very attractive and worth framing to be added to the wall of your shack.

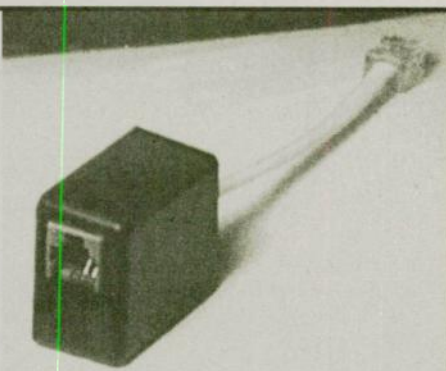
If you are unaware of the above program it is too late as your collection of IOTA groups applied to the year

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Element Length... 11 Ft.	Wind Loading..... 1.5 Sq. Ft.
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Turning Radius... 6 Ft. 2 in.	Power Rating... 1200 Watts P.E.P.
	Input Impedance Single 50 ohm

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2000. This is just a reminder to those of you who did participate during the year and have forgotten to submit your application.

**RSGB IOTA Convention**

The RSGB's annual International HF & IOTA Convention will be held this year at the Beaumont Training & Conference Centre in Windsor, Berkshire, England the weekend of 12-14 October. My wife and I attended this one in 1999 and had an enjoyable time with the Brits. For more information check their website at <http://www.rsgb.org/hfc2001/>.

**DXCC - 12 Meters**

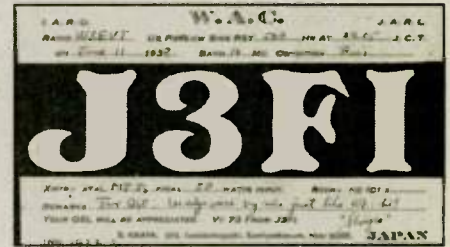
The ARRL DXCC Desk announced the addition of the 12-Meter Single Band DXCC award and is now accepting applications. The certificates will be dated but not numbered. Your 12-meter credits will not count toward the DeSoto Cup competition until 1 October 2001, but will be included in the DXCC Challenge totals. If you do not know what credits you have on 12 Meters, you may contact DXCC Desk for a copy of your record. However, if you have been active in the program they will show on the printout provided by the DXCC Desk. If you do not have internet access, and wish to know your 12-meter credits, please send a note to DXCC along with \$2.00 for postage and handling.

**Antique QSL department**

Over the years (since 1978) I have used old cards from Japan. I just received several photo copies of such cards from Clem Moritz, W1EVT, who he had worked since he got his ticket in 1934 until the war started.



Clem said that he was on the bands on that fateful day of 7 December 1941 until sundown, knowing that the next



day he would be off the air for the duration.

The cards shown here are all from the year 1938. In those days Clem was operating as W3EVT in Virginia. Yes, Virginia used to be in the third call area. Clem is not new to DX and has the honor of holding 5DXCC #3. He said he would have been #1, but Gus, W4BPD, didn't get his cards to him in time.

So here are cards for old timers Horoshi Murai, J2MI; Shigi Okaya,

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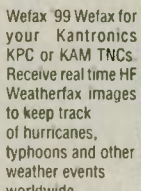
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## DX World

J3FI; and T. Wakimoto, J3FK. As to the whereabouts of these pre-war Japanese operators we do not know. Many did return to the bands following the war in 1952. Sixty-three years ago is a long time.

### QSL Information

*The Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin* offers advice on QSL information via the website of Dennis Eremin, RZ1AK, at <http://www.qsl.net/rz1ak/home.htm>. Click on secure your mail. Here Dennis offers tips on sending direct QSL cards to Russia and other CIS nations.

Early in June I received a long overdue QSL card for a direct request for working EKØI on Spafaryev Island (AS-059). If the QSL manager would have waited another three months he could have made it flat 10 years! If I made my request via the bureau system I wonder how long it would have taken?

Thanks go to the following con-

tributors for this month's column: G3KMA, G3NUG, RZ1AK, W1EVT, K3ZT, Western Washington DX Club (WAØRJY), Northern Arizona DX Association (W7ST), WebCluster (OH2AQ), *425 DX News* (I1JQJ), *The OPDX Bulletin* (KB8NW), DX-News (NJDXA), *The Low Band Monitor* (KØCS), *The Daily DX* (W3UR), and QRZ DX (N4AA).

Well, we had our first — overnight guests of visiting DXers that is. Norby Oberweis, LX1LX, and his lovely young XYL, Manu, LX2LX, were stateside and touring about. Norby had been on the air a couple of days earlier on Santa Catalina Island (NA-066) and was on his way to Utah. Perhaps some of you worked them last year while they were honeymooning on Easter Island.

— *John F.W. Minke III, N6JM, can be reached by snail mail sent to: 6230 Rio Bonito Dr., Carmichael, CA 95608, or by e-mail to: n6jm@pacbell.net.*

## ARRL petitions for new 60M band

A petition filed this week by the ARRL could result in a new high-frequency band for U.S. amateurs. The ARRL has asked the FCC to allocate 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to the Amateur Service on a domestic (US-only), secondary basis.

The League told the FCC that the new 60-meter band would aid emergency communications activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 Meters. "There are times on certain paths when a frequency in the 80-meter band is too low, and a frequency in the 40-meter band is too

high for reliable ionospheric propagation," the ARRL said in its petition. The ARRL said the propagation gap can hamper communication between the U.S. and the Caribbean during severe weather emergencies.

The FCC has not yet invited public comments on the petition. Even if the petition finds favor with the FCC, it's likely to be several years before the new band actually becomes available.

As proposed by the ARRL, amateurs General Class and higher would be permitted to operate phone, CW, data, image and RTTY on the new band running maximum authorized power.

"An amateur allocation in this band would improve the Amateur Service's already exemplary record of providing emergency communications during natural disasters when even modern communications systems typically fail," the ARRL concluded.

A copy of the ARRL petition is available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/announcement/regulatory/5MHz>. — *ARRL Letter*

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8S4C/5	SM4DDS	OJØ/JR4PMX	JR4PMX
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9A/IN3TJV	IN3YGW	OJØ/OH1NX	OH1NX
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9A/WØYR	WØYR	OJØU	JP1NWZ
9A7K/p	9A7K	OK/WØYR	WØYR
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9Q5BQ	HB9AMO	PU1NEZ/p	PU1NEZ
C6/K2VOL	KJ4Z	PY1AMF/p	PY1NEZ
C6/K4TKE	KJ4Z	PY1LVF/p	PY1LVF
C6/KJ4Z	KJ4Z	PY1NEW/p	PY1NEW
C6A/WØYR	WØYR	PY1NEZ/p	PY1NEZ
CN8LI	ON4ANT	R1ANB	RU1ZC
CQ2EHX	CT1EHX	R3/WØYR	WØYR
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KG4XE	AA5XE	VU3CHE	K4VUD
KG4ZI	W5OZI	WØYR/4	WØYR
KH7/WØYR	WØYR	WØYR/6	WØYR
KI8CT/KHØ	JJ1CRV	WØYR/9	WØYR
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## The versatility of the “radio guy”

**A** friend called me last week to tell me (well, actually to brag) about his new “do everything” radio. His first words were: “You still running those old TS-430s rigs?” When I assured him they were still operable and on the air, he began to tell me about his new rig. It does everything, he said, including VHF, UHF, 6 Meters, HF, and I think he said it cooked supper too. He then told me about his new walkie-talkie that has built in packet so he can do the APRS and GPS thing and have his car show up on maps as he drives around town.

I patiently listened to his list of new stuff, biting my tongue as I wanted to ask if he actually talked to anyone on the rigs (he called me on his cell phone to tell me about the new radios). Please don't think I'm against new stuff - heck, I love new stuff as much as you. My take on “things” is what do you do with it?

Years ago I do remember when a walkie talkie only had one or two channels and weighed as much as a brick. (Gee, maybe that's why they are often called bricks!) Anyway, the advances in radio technology are wonderful and I'd never advocate a regression even to radios that glow in the dark (and I once heated my shack with quite a few at one time). But there's more to Amateur Radio than a shiny new radio.

Some of the greatest memories I have include stringing a dipole at the Riverton, Wyoming airport during a search and rescue mission, or operating in the middle of a rainstorm during the floods of 1983. I have fond thoughts of putting a Heathkit HW-18 (tube radio) in a vehicle that was headed to help when the Teton Dam broke in Idaho. As I ponder the joy of Amateur Radio, few thoughts concern what radio I actually used.

Of course I recall my first new rig and also the first HF mobile (it was a tube radio), but only because that first HF was in my car as I made the 10 hour drive to Denver as a “tech” and headed home as an “advanced” operator. Those first contacts on that old rig were some of the highpoints. The rig is long gone, but those contacts I vividly recall. I didn't want to burst my friend's “new radio” bubble, but the moment he unboxed it, it was out dated. Somewhere, some company is already planning to introduce yet a more sophisticated rig with many more features.

Amateur Radio isn't about “new” radios (the gospel according to Jerry). It's adding a human component to our technology and then sharing an experience with others. The fellow I talked

with on my first HF mobile contact talked with me for almost an hour. He then took the time to write me a long letter welcoming me to the HF component of the hobby. I have no idea what rig he used, but I remember his comments as to how to improve my mobile installation and some of his stories about HF operation. Whether or not his suggestions were the key to my later mobile contact with Peru and Scotland, I don't know, but what a thrill it was to know my 100 watts went that far.

As you introduce others to the hobby, take the time to invite them to go with you as you attend various activities and events. If you're building an antenna or installing a radio, invite a newly licensed friend over to help you even if you don't need the help. New rigs are great to have and show — just take the time to create experiences that include the human element as well.

### The Timpanogos team

When I was an ROTC cadet many years ago, I remember several lectures on the importance of communications as it related to our squad. When I watched those old black and white war movies, it was always the radio operator seemed to be where the action was and always played a key role as the good guys won the battle. At my first ROTC field exercise (it was a cold and snowy day in Wyoming as I recall), I quickly volunteered to be the squad radio operator. Imagine my surprise when they gave me a significantly heavy backpack radio complete with a large whip antenna and heavy battery pack. After packing that stuff on the field exercise I was less eager to be the radio guy next time out.

I think, however, that my initial interest in field communications was sparked back in those ROTC days and I understood the need for reliable command and control. Today, our radios are much smaller, but the need for communications remains a big issue.

In Utah County to the south of where I live, a group of volunteers each summer makes up the Timpanogos Emergency Rescue Team, or TERT. These volunteers station themselves each summer weekend in some pretty rugged, albeit popular terrain called Mount Timpanogos. This popular hiking and climbing area is close to a large Utah town and lures many unsuspecting and ill-prepared hikers and climbers to its trails.

Each summer TERT bandages wounds, locates lost persons, carries the more seriously injured down the mountain, or calls in a chopper for the critical cases. One critical member of



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the team has always been an Amateur Radio operator. The team is not complete without the radio guy. (Don't leave home without him/her.)

What a difference it would make if we (Amateur Radio operators) could somehow convey this understanding to other agencies and groups, that a skilled communicator is key to, as they said in ROTC, a successful mission. There are times as I listen to scanners or observe an event that I cringe at the communications problems that could be so easily solved with a talented field communications specialist involved.

Whether it is setting up an efficient antenna or diagnosing a radio problem, the event can only be enhanced by including, as a critical element, someone with experience in communications. Often it's the "radio guy" who even fixes the pop machine, the FAX machine, the telephone, the lights, the generator, the stuck door, and just about every other techno problem. I remember one callout where the radio guy got the Red Cross snow blower running so the walks could be cleared during a snow storm and another "radio guy" fixed their copy machine. Don't underestimate the need for someone who understands technology!

And my hat's off to TERT who makes great use of Amateur Radio and saves lives each summer!

### An attitude adjustment

A law enforcement official (an assistant chief) penned a message on an Internet discussion group recently where he took to task all of the volunteer radio people who, as he put it, are really wanna-be cops. He lumped them (meaning us) all together and claimed our thrills in life all came from the lights and sirens we all install so we can monitor police calls and then respond as we see fit.

He suggested that when we "learn our place" he would be willing to work with us, but until then, we should just let his people take care of things. How arrogant can someone be! My worry was that this chief didn't get out much and had certainly not had much interaction

with volunteers. Comments like his trouble me because as a command official in his department, the line officer who wants to advance in the department usually must mirror the chief's politics.

My theory is that this "chief" is worried that the volunteer radio operators might offer a threat to his command. After all, many of the radio volunteers I know are airline pilots, doctors, lawyers, college educated, financially secure, mentally stable individuals. I can count on one hand the wannabe operators that push the envelope and they never seem to stay around long anyway.

So, Mr. Police Chief, come over to the next ARES or REACT meeting and get involved. If you shed your attitude toward those you serve, you might find a great resource among our volunteer ranks. You might even enjoy calling us friends and sharing expertise. Or, when you're a retired chief, you can sit and watch your replacement involve volunteers and really make a difference in the community.

Until next month, conserve those electrons, but be ready to serve when the lights go out! Best wishes from Salt Lake City.

— Jerry Wellman, W7SAR, can be reached by sending snail mail to: P.O. Box 11445, Salt Lake City, Utah 84147, or by sending e-mail to: [jw@desnews.com](mailto:jw@desnews.com).

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## You can't operate on that machine!

Over the years there have been several instances where the FCC has asserted that a person who operates a repeater is under no obligation to "repeat" the signals of another Ham. In the mid-1990's this was the basis for civil action in several parts of the country where a repeater owner-operator or a radio club sponsoring a system went into state court to request (and usually obtain) a 'restraining order' to keep certain 'unwelcome' amateurs from harassing or in any other way utilizing a particular system. Now, the government is taking the issue of banning unwelcome users a step further as it intervenes on the side of a radio club and tells a Northern California amateur that he cannot use a repeater because the system license holder has, basically, told him to 'go away'.

Back on 17 January of this year the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club sent a letter to James H. Davis, W6IBD, of Concord, California requesting that he refrain from using their W6CX repeater system. According to the FCC, the letter was issued as a result of Davis' alleged failure to follow the operational rules set forth by the licensee and control operators of the W6CX repeater. The FCC says W6IBD received the letter on 18 January but did not adhere to the request to refrain from using the W6CX system.

The regulatory agency appears to believe that it is the responsibility of a repeater operator to demand a certain level of decorum on a machine. According to chief rules enforcer Riley

Hollingsworth, it all centers around adherence to rules on both the part of the system licensee and those who want to use the services of an Amateur Service repeating device.

"The commission requires that repeaters be under the supervision of a control operator. And we hold such control operators and licensees responsible for the proper operation of the repeater system. And we expect them to take whatever steps are appropriate to insure compliance with repeater rules and that might include converting the repeater to a closed repeater or taking it off the air entirely," says FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH.

Hollingsworth says the FCC does not require a repeater to convert to closed operation in order to ensure compliance among the users. But the regulatory agency does say that the commission expects user compliance with all rules. And in this case it tells Davis it expects him to abide by the request to stay off the W6CX system.

### The history of Israel's repeaters

Obtaining information about the Tel Aviv repeater was quite a task. First we thought that all the clues would

be in the hand of 4X1IK Israel Kass. It soon became apparent that quite a lot of amateurs were involved. Here is the story:

Kass obtained an old 'out of service' VHF repeater from Motorola. Danny Rosenne, 4X1SK, started somewhere in 1977 to prepare the repeater for amateur use. This meant adjusting the unit to Israeli R7 repeater pair (145.775 MHz. with its obligatory offset of down 600 KHz). We received a 'two 'bottle' (cavity) duplexer which none of us amateurs knew how to tune at that time.

The first location of the machine on a trial basis was at the home of 4X1IK in Ramat Gan, a northern Tel Aviv suburb. When everything seemed to work satisfactorily, it was decided, by the group, (which in the meantime grew to three) together with Srulik Haramaty 4Z4JT, to move the equipment to the Volvo garage. This location was owned by Kass in Petah Tikva which is also north of Tel-Aviv. It worked fine, but the coverage was very limited. So the search began for yet another site.

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town was the 'Hasneh' building in mid Tel-Aviv. The IARC got permission to install the repeater there. The result was tremendous coverage. One could hear its signal all around Tel-Aviv, way up North to Haifa and down to Beer Sheva well as into Jerusalem.

At that point David Shmueli, 4X1WA joined the organization. David worked in the repeater service department of Motorola. His expertise was, and still is, important to the upkeep of the entire Israeli repeater network.

But the 'Hasneh Building' was not the repeaters resting place for long. It was moved, a few years later, to a senior citizens' home called 'Mishan.' Its roof is absolutely empty to enable emergency helicopters to land. Only our antenna, which has limited height is installed in one of the corners of the building. Another benefit of this site is the electrical mains supply we are hooked up to. It is the elevator which has an emergency generator thus giving the repeater uninterrupted electricity.

The Tel-Aviv repeater of today gives time of the day and date as well as pre-recorded announcements. In the foreseeable future all the repeaters of the older MSR2000 model will be updated to the more modern Motorola MSF5000 type machines. One of the next projects is a 10-meter FM repeater in the Tel-Aviv area. But this is only in the planning stage.

### Epilogue

Since those days, from 1977 to about 1982, a lot has changed in the Israeli repeater network. We now have twenty-five different machines installed all over the country. Five of them on UHF — all the others on VHF. You can find a list of them, together with their locations at [www.iarc.org](http://www.iarc.org).

Earlier we mentioned point David Shmueli, 4X1WA. Without his helping and guiding hand, his constant urging to improve the equipment, it is doubtful the network would be as advanced as it is. But there is also a large list of helpers behind the scenes. Far too many to list here. But we have to mention three people, who work for Motorola

Israel. They are Nathan Gidron a SWL, Yair Ycsefi, 4X4GH and Ehud Zager, 4Z4UR.

### A great moment lost

I cannot for the life of me understand why nobody had a tape recorder sitting by their rig to record Dennis Tito, KG6FZX's, Ham radio operation from the ISS.

Ever since I got on the air on 6-meter AM in the 1950's I have had some sort of tape recorder tied to my receiver(s) to capture anything that might be deemed important to preserving our past. I recorded the very first contact on 6-meter AM between a YL on Long Island and an amateur in Osaka, Japan. That was triple hop F2 in 1959. I have audio from 1970 of the late Jean Shepherd, K2ORS, on the WA2SUR repeater in NYC "roasting" repeater owner/operator George LeDoux, K1TKJ, as only "Shep" could. I recorded the first words of Owen Garrriott, W5LFL, from the shuttle *Columbia* using an IC-2AT hand held hard-wired to a Panasonic cassette portable.

And as I write this, I am sitting only a few feet from my current home station where I have inexpensive record-

ers (mostly Sony) connected to my FT-847, FT-4700, Sangean ATS-806, and several other pieces of gear. Even one tied across the speaker of a now ancient Clegg 99'er 6-meter AM transceiver that sits tuned to 50.4 MHz — 'just in case.' If something important shows up on the air and if I am around when it transpires, it will be caught on tape.

May I leave this month with the suggestion to every one of you involved in any specialized area of VHF / UHF communications — be it space, FM, weak signal or what have you. Go out to your local Wal-Mart, K-Mart, or wherever; spend \$20 on a standard size cassette recorder, some batteries and a few C-90 cassettes. Keep it next to your radio and close to the receiver's speaker, ready to go, just in case another bit of Ham radio history, like the first words of Dennis Tito from space, come your way. These moments tend to be few and far in-between and those who come after you will truly appreciate the legacy you have left behind for them.

— Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, can be reached by mail sent to: 28197 Robin Ave., Saugus, CA 91350, or by e-mail sent to: [billwa6itf@aol.com](mailto:billwa6itf@aol.com).



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## 2001 MARAC National Convention

I was fortunate to attend the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club's (MARAC) national convention in Hampton, VA. 5-8 July with my Dad, Bill Jansen, K2HVN. It was a great gathering of county hunters and the weather was great — sunny, low 80s and low humidity. Approximately 150 amateurs and non-Ham family members attended the convention. Without a doubt, the most enjoyable part of the convention was the time sitting around tables in the hospitality room sharing stories with fellow county hunters. I took a few notes to share what transpired during the convention.

### Forums

Eldon Hall, N8STF, gave a presentation about his trip to Australia. Eldon's trip was most memorable because he surprised Alan Roocroft, VK4AAR, with his USA-CA certificate and number. Eldon had conspired with Ted, K1BV, to not release Alan's number until Eldon arrived at Alan's house. Eldon showed up at Alan's house (half-way around the world) and presented Alan with his USA-CA certificate for contacting all 3,076 counties. Alan and his wife, Meewah, were very surprised. To make 3,076 county contacts from so far away is amazing.

In addition to meeting with Alan and his wife, Eldon also visited with county hunters Cliff Bilston, VK3CB, and his wife Helen; Jim Cunningham, VK4BS; Rex Glew, VK3MW and June Sim, VK4SJ, and her husband Doug Sim, VK4BP.

Esther Imsande, KB6HW, gave a presentation on how county hunters can use global positioning system (GPS) satellites and Delorme's Street Atlas version 8.0 computer software. Esther and her husband, Chuck Imsande, W6YLJ, use a laptop and a GPS antenna/receiver while driving to determine their position as they travel through counties. Esther gave a detailed explanation of how she uses the program to include knowing exactly how long they need to drive to get to a county line ("we'll be there in 11 minutes!"). Esther also told a story of another county hunter, John Harvey, KKØL, who uses the program to plan his county hunting trips well in advance.

John Thompson, K6OHM, gave a slide presentation discussing his 26 years working for a Mickey Mouse outfit — what I mean, of course, is that he worked for Disney for 26 years, from 1968-1994. In his career with Disney, John worked in almost every aspect of the business; from concessions

to entertainment to construction to printing tickets to buying "plush" items, etc.

Bob Voss, N4CD, gave a lesson on mobile antennas and mobile radio installation. Most of the discussion centered on eliminating noise — whether it comes from the ignition or fuel pumps (notorious in Ford vehicles). Bob's tips included making sure antenna mounts are making solid metal contact, grounding the mobile radio, grounding the antenna mount to the car frame, and running the power feed directly to the car's battery. Bob also discussed the antenna findings of Barry, W9UCW. Barry found that mounting antenna resonators vertically or horizontally on top of the mast made no difference in signal field strength readings. What does make a difference is the length of the mast (since 95% of the antennas radiation occurs in the mast) and where the antenna is mounted.

Ed Palagyi, KN4Y, and Bob, N4CD, led a CW forum for 24 CW ops and discussed Q signals and abbreviations frequently used on the CW county hunters net (14.0565 MHz). The CW ops also discussed the use of QRL to determine if the net was in use; however, most CW ops preferred the use of "QNF?" to ask if the net is busy.

### MARAC Board of Directors meeting

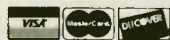
The MARAC Board of Directors meeting was attended by approximately 50 county hunters. The board discussed several topics of interest to county hunting. First, since this is an awards club, the Awards Custodian, Gene Olig, KD9ZP gave out several awards. Last county awards were given to Nell Devitt, KØGO; John Howe, KE4UP; Carol Morkdid, KIØJD; Kent Reinke, KL1V; Gene Tyree, N4ANV; Randy Davis, N8ELQ; Ed Hoyt, W5RIT; Nelda Smith, W6XJN; Bill, K2HVN; Dave Splitt, KE3VV; Bob, N4CD; Eldon, N8STF; Mat Matthew, WØNAC; Larry Prichard, W9SUQ;

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Art Dechent, WA4WQG and Bill Grew, WG9A. Additional awards were given out at the banquet Saturday night. Gene announced a new award for a Team of the Year — similar to County Hunter of the Year.

Randy, N8ELQ, announced winners of recent elections for District Officers; Stanley Heinsma, VE1BES, in the Northeast district, John Robson, WB9STT, in the Northcentral district, and Bob, KC6AWX, in the Pacific district. The board thanked John Butler, WB2NFB, for his many years of service to the board and MARAC.

Also discussed were several options for cutting costs of the monthly MARAC newsletter, the *Roadrunner*. Options considered included eliminating the listing of officers and the Treasurer's report. Members were also encouraged to change their membership to receiving the *Roadrunner* via the Internet versus printed/mailed copies. Lastly there was discussion about the Awards Committee and the Board of Directors, with recommendations from the members, decided to allow the Awards Chairman to pick a member from each of the Districts as long as the Directors had an opportunity to approve the selection.

### The awards banquet

John, K6OHM, was the MC for the Awards Banquet. Rev. Art, WA4WQG, led the group in an invocation, then Father Joe Chambers, KF5AT, remembered the county hunters that passed away during the last year. Those county hunters who became silent keys within the past year included: Tom, KØVZR; Paul, KCØSX; George, K1PUT; Eileen Holmes, K2AGJ; Burt Sussman, NJ2S; Alex Marion, W2CUE; Andy, W3XE; Tom WA4RDN; Mike Peterson, NO5X; Mel Boatman, W5AWT; Jay Lowers, K6RLS; Larry, K6SLP; Edmond, WH6AF; Scott Siebelink, KF8DV; Elmore, W9DDO; Les Springmire, W9GPC; Hazel, K9QPR and Bill, KØOJG.

In recognition of all their hard work, John, K6OHM, presented the conven-



**Bob Voss, N4CD, was named County Hunter of the year.**

tion staff with 1st day covers from the first day issue of the Amateur Radio stamp dated 15 December 1964 and postmarked in Anchorage, AK.

When it was time for awards, Gene Olig, KD9ZP, gave out Awards to many county hunters. Last county awards went to Carol Reitman, AB2LS; Eldon, N8STF; Hugh Clark, K8GPC; and Tom Carr, KGØBB. Others were recognized for achieving last county milestones: Don Kimble, AE3Z, 50 last counties; Don Guy, W9GUY, 50 last counties; Kent, KL1V, 75 last counties; Pete, K4QFK, 500 last counties; and Eldon, N8STF, 500 last counties. Silver Glasscock, KCØJG finished his 5th time around. Tom, KGØBB, and Walt Orday, K1DFO, received Bingo awards. Carol, KIØJD, received a 5 Star Award. Ace, N3AHA, received a Mobile DX award for contacting 268 DXCC countries while operating mobile. Jeff Bechner, W9MSE, was awarded the 1st place mobile finish in the CW county hunter's contest (held the 1st week in May) while Ed, KN4Y, received the 2nd place award.

The big awards were the mobile, net control and county hunters of the year awards. Bob, N4CD, received both the CW and SSB mobile operator of the year awards — a plaque for each hand. Jeff, W9MSE, was this year's CW County Hunter of the Year and Fred Crawford, K5CWR, was announced

as the SSB County Hunter of the Year. Chuck Theisen, K9IA, received the Awards Custodian award for helping the Awards Chairman, Gene, KD9ZP, with getting the thousands of awards out to the county hunters during the year. Bill, K2NJ, presented Ace, N3AHA, with the President's Award for contributing to MARAC and county hunting through 10 years of *Worldradio* County Hunter columns.

By all accounts, the convention was a tremendous success. My hat is off to Gene and Pete and all the convention helpers that made this a very memorable experience. The MARAC plans to conduct the 2002 convention in Visalia. I hope some of you will be able to make one of the upcoming national conventions.

### Mobile from all 3,076 counties

Though it is not a race to the finish line, several county hunters are closing in on transmitting from all 3,076 counties. At the convention I took some time to talk to some of the mobile ops getting close to finishing. Bob, N4CD, needs to operate from only about 40 or so counties — all in the Northwestern U.S. Jim Thomas, KB4XK, only needs to operate from 80 or so counties. Jim is making a trip to AK, ND and MT in Jul/Aug and will only have 14 or so left after the summer. Pete, K4QFK, has a few hundred left; however, a concerted effort may result in him finishing in the next year. Pete is accompanying Jim to AK, ND, and MT. Although only three Amateur Radio operators have transmitted from all 3,076 counties today (Ken Wosika, KB7QO; Gene Kowalewski, W1TEE; and Ed Eastwold, WAØSBR), there may be three more to finish in the next two years. An unbelievable accomplishment for all these county givers! Congratulations to all.

— "Ace" Jansen, N3AHA, our county huntin' columnist can be reached by snail mail sent to: 105 Balch Springs Circle, Leesburg, VA 20175, or by e-mail sent to: [jansens@tidalwave.net](mailto:jansens@tidalwave.net).

# Visit Your Local RADIO CLUB



## ALABAMA

**Tuscaloosa ARC.** Meets 2nd Mon./monthly, 7 p.m., Red Cross Bldg., 15th St., Tuscaloosa, AL. For info: David Drummond, W4MD, (205) 339-7915, trustee for W4KCQ, 146.82(-) (118.8) 4/02

## ARIZONA

**Arizona Repeater Association, Inc.** Operates 24 VHF-UHF rpters. in AZ. Meets 4th Thurs./monthly, 7:30 p.m., 2124 W. Cheryl Dr., Phoenix, AZ, North entrance. Info: D. Baize (602) 542-7950 or: www.arizona-repeaterassociation.org 2/02

**Cochise Amateur Radio Assn., (CARA).** Meets 1st Mon./monthly, 7:30 p.m. at club facility on Moson Rd., Sierra Vista, AZ. K7RDG/R 146.76(-)rptr.PL162.2. 8/02

## CALIFORNIA

**Contra Costa Communications Club, Inc., WD6EZR/R.** P.O. Box 20661, El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661. Meets 2nd Sun./monthly (except May & Dec.), 08:00, Denny's, El Cerrito, CA. 145.110 PL 82.5 Info: S. Clark, KB6SEI, (510) 724-0158. 7/02

**Downey Amateur Radio Club Inc., W6TOI.** Meets 1st Thurs./monthly, 7:30 p.m., So. Middle Sch. cafetorium, 12500 S. Birchdale, Downey, CA. VHF net W6GNS rptr. 146.175(+)-Thurs.: 7:30 p.m. <http://www.downeyarc.org>. Info L. Vaughn, kd6nzw at kd6nzw@downey-arc.org 8/02

**East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc.** Meets 2nd Fri./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 4600 Appian Way, El Sobrante, CA. Info: (510) 233-7509, w6cus1@juno.com, 145.11(-) MHz. 9/01

**Fresno Amateur Radio Club.** Meets 2nd Fri./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Ernie Pyle School, 4140 N. Augusta, Fresno, CA. 146.94(-) 223.94(-) 1/02

**Garlic Valley ARC (GVARC).** Meets last Sat./monthly, 8 a.m., The Little House Restaurant. Exit 101 at Monterey Rd., Gilroy. Info: Tony Armendariz, AD6ID@arrl.net. Talk-in: 147.825/-600KHz K6THR/R 7/02

**Golden Empire Amateur Radio Society, (VEC).** P.O. Box 508, Chico, CA 95927. Club call W6RHC, rptr. 146.85(-). Meets: 3rd Fri./monthly, 7:30 p.m. at 346 Cherry St. (Library Rm.), Chico. 7/02

**Golden Triangle Amateur Radio Club.** P.O. Box 1335, Wildomar, CA 92595. Meets 4th Mon./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Rancho Water Dist., 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula, CA. Rptr: W6GTR 146.805 (-) PL 100. Info: H. Wijma, AC6VN, (909) 693-2383. E-mail: ac6vn@cs.com. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/gtarc> 9/01

**Livermore Amateur Radio Klub, (LARK).** Meets 3rd Sat./monthly, 9:30 a.m., City Council Chamber, 3575 Pacific Ave., Livermore, CA. Net Mon. 1900 on 147.12(+). Info: LARK Sec., P.O. Box 3190, Livermore, CA 94551-3190.(925)373-1386. 2/02

**Marin Amateur Radio Club.** Box 6423, San Rafael, CA 94903. Meets 1st Fri./monthly, 7:30 p.m., also every Sun., 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Alto Clubhouse, 27 Shell Rd., Mill Valley, CA. Website: W6SG.Net 7/02

**Nevada County ARC.** Meets 2nd Mon./monthly, 7 p.m., Salvation Army Bldg., 10725 Alta St., Grass Valley, CA. Net Tues. 7 p.m. 147.015. Info: George, KQ6SA, (503) 447-2295, www.NCARC.org 4/02

**North Hills Radio Club.** Meets 3rd Tue./monthly, 6:30 p.m., Arcade Lib., Marconi near Fulton, Sacramento, CA. Nets 8 p.m. Tue., (except 3rd Tue.) & Thur., 145.19- PL 162.2, 224.40-. Info: (916) 944-1464. nhrc@k6is.org, <http://www.k6is.org> 4/02

**Orange County ARC.** Meets 3rd Fri./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Orange County Red Cross, 601 N. Golden Circle, Santa Ana, CA. Talk-in 146.550 (S). Contact Bob Buss, KD6BWH, (714) 534-2995, www.w6ze.org 4/02

**River City A.R.C.S.** Meets 1st Tues./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Sacramento Society for the Blind, 2750 24th St., Sacramento, CA. License classes offered. Info: (916) 492-6115. 10/01

**Sierra Foothills ARC.** P.O. Box 1005, Newcastle, CA 95658. Meets 2nd Fri./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Auburn Library (Beecher Rm.), 350 Nevada St. Thurs. nets 7:30 p.m. 145.430(-) PL 162.2. Info: M. Diridoni, mdiridoni@rsvl.net 8/02

**Sonoma County Radio Amateur, Inc.** W6LFFJ, P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. (707) 579-9608. Meets 1st Wed./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Agilent Tech., 1400 Fountain Grove Pkwy, Santa Rosa. Net each Tues. 7 p.m., W6SON. Rptr. 146.73(-) PL 88.5. www.cds1.net/scra 2/02

**Stanislaus Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc. (SARA).** P.O. Box 4601, Modesto, CA 95352. Meets 3rd Tues./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Modesto Police N/E area Substation, 3705 Oakdale Rd. Modesto. Net 1.2+4 Tues. 7:30 p.m. 145.390(-)PL136.5 2/02

**Tehachapi-Southern Sierra ARS.** Meets 2nd Thurs./monthly, 7 p.m., except July, 125 East F St., Tehachapi, CA (Veteran's Hall). Info: KD6KMN, (661) 822-5995, www.ssars.net, 147.06(+), 224.42(-) PL 156.7. Pkt 145.090(S) connect to W6PVG-7. ARES nets 7 p.m. 147.51(S) Mon. 1/02

**Tri-County Amateur Radio Assoc.** P.O. Box 75, Claremont, CA 91711-0075. Meets: 2nd Mon./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Brackett Airport, Pilot's Lounge in Adm. Bldg., La Verne, CA. Info: Alvin, W6EKZ at w6ekz@arrl.net or (909) 622-9930. 2/02

**Trinity County ARC.** P.O. Box 2283, Weaverville, CA 96093. Meets 2nd Wed./monthly, County School. Adm. Building, Weaverville, 7:30 p.m. Rptrs: WA6BXN 146.73(-) PL 85.4, W6HOR 146.925(-) PL 85.4. <http://www.tcoe.trinity.k12.ca.us/~tcarc> 2/02

**West Coast Amateur Radio Club, (WCARC).** P.O. Box 2617, Costa Mesa, CA 92628. Meets 3rd Thurs./monthly, 7 p.m., Fountain Valley Sch. Dist. Office, 17210 Oak St., Fountain Valley, CA. Info: Jane, KD6ODV, (714) 531-6707 4/02

**Westside Amateur Radio Club - Los Angeles.** P.O. Box 11092, Marina del Rey, CA 90295. Meets 4th Tues./monthly, 7:30 p.m., ARC Bldg., 11355 Ohio Ave., W. L.A., CA (VA Cntr. grounds). Net Tues., 8 p.m. 147.195+, PL100, except mtg. night. Website: <http://www.qsl.net/wa6rc> Messages: (310) 848-1354 11/01

**Willits Amateur Radio Society, (WARS).** P.O. Box 73, Willits, CA 95490. Meets 4th Mon./monthly, 7 p.m., Brooktrails Fire Dept. 2 NW Willits. <http://www.saber.net/wars>. Talk-in: 145.13(-), PL 103.5. 12/01

## FLORIDA

**Gulf Coast ARC.** P.O. Box 595, New Port Richey, FL 34656. Meets 4th Mon./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Marchman Tech. Ed. Cntr., 7825 Campus Dr., Bldg. C, Rm C122, New Port Richey, WA4GDN rpters. 146.67 (-) & 145.33(-), serving all of Pasco County. 1/02

**Highlands County ARC, Inc.** Meets 3rd Mon./monthly 7 p.m., Agri Civic Cntr, (HWY 27 So.) Sebring, FL. Rptrs: KK4LI 147.045 & KE4WU 442.350. Club Net: every Wed. on 147.045, 8 p.m. ARES Net: every Wed., 147.27 at 7:30. Web page: [www.strato.net/~hamradio](http://www.strato.net/~hamradio) 7/02

**Port St. Lucie ARA.** P.O. Box 7461, Port St. Lucie, FL 34985. Meets 2nd Fri./monthly, St. Andrews Lutheran Church, 295 Prima Vista Blvd. Contact: Roy Cox, (561) 340-4319. [www.qsl.net/pslara](http://www.qsl.net/pslara) or 146.955-. 2/02

## GEORGIA

**Cherokee Capital ARS.** Meets 3rd Thurs./monthly, 7 p.m., Trinity Baptist Church, 1170 Rome Road, SW (GA Hwy 53) Calhoun, GA. 146.745(-). Info: Felton Floyd, AF4DN, (706) 629-0369. [www.qsl.net/k4woc](http://www.qsl.net/k4woc) 1/02

## HAWAII

**Big Island Amateur Radio Club.** P.O. Box 1938, Hilo, HI 96721. Meets 2nd Sat./monthly, 2 p.m., Kaaau Community Ctr., behind Fire Station on Old Volcano Rd., Kaaau. Talk-in on 146.88 (-). Lunch, 11 a.m. Fridays, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel - Queen's Court Rest. 11/01

**Hawaii QRP Club.** Meets daily at World Headquarters, 8-10 a.m., Jack In The Box Restaurant, mile 2, Volcano Highway, Hilo. Contact: via e-mail: kh6b@juno.com for info. 3/02

## ILLINOIS

**Dupage Amateur Radio Club, (DARC).** P.O. Box 71, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514. Meets 4th Mon./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Fire Stn. #3, 6015 S. Cass Ave, Westmont, IL. Net Sun., 9 p.m. on 145.25. W9DUP rpters., 145.25(-) 107.2PL, 442.55(+), 114.8PL, 224.68 (-). [www.w9dup.org](http://www.w9dup.org) 11/01

**Hamfesters Radio Club, W9AA.** P.O. Box 42792, Evergreen Park, IL 60805. Meets 1st Fri./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Crestwood Civ. Ctr., 139th & Kostner, Crestwood, IL. Nets: Sun. (local) 0100 UTC, 28.410 MHz; Mon. 9 p.m. 146.43 S., Packet Mailbox 145.65 MHz. Info: (708) 226-1570. 10/01

**Schaumburg ARC.** P.O. Box 68251, Schaumburg, IL. Meets 3rd Thurs./monthly, 7 p.m., Rec. Center, Bode and Springinguth Roads. (847) 798-5248. <http://members.aol.com/sarcradio> 11/01

## LOUISIANA

**Baton Rouge ARC.** Meets last Tue./monthly, 7 p.m., Catholic High School, 855 Hearthstone Dr., Baton Rouge, LA. Net: 146.79MHz, 8:30 p.m. Sun. [www.brac.org](http://www.brac.org). E-mail: W5GIX@aol.com. 2/02

**W5GD Jefferson ARC Inc.** P.O. Box 73665, Metairie, LA 70033. Gen. mgt. 4th Thurs.; Board, 2nd Thurs.; Open House 1st, 3rd, 5th, (all) 7:30 p.m., Clubhouse, Metairie Play-ground, 1521 Palm St., Metairie. (504) 831-1613. Net Tue. 9 p.m. 145.37 (PL 114.8). 7/02

## MARYLAND

**Maryland Mobiles ARC (MMARC).** P.O. Box 935, Severn, MD 21144. Meets 1st Fri./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Baldwin Hall, Generals HWY, Millersville. Info net ea. Mon. 8:30 p.m. on 146.805(-), tone 107.2 Hz. <http://www.qth.com/mobileers> 8/02

## MASSACHUSETTS

**Quannapowitt Rad'io Assoc., (QRA)** Meets 3rd Thur./monthly 7 00-9:00 p.m. at Wakefield MA Public Library, 345 Main St., Wakefield, MA, Sept. to June. Info: Jeffrey S. Hollis, W1CKH, (781) 944-6218. 3/02

## MICHIGAN

**Chelsea Amateur Radio Club, Inc., WD8IEL** Meets 4th Tues./monthly, 7 p.m., Key Bank, 1478 Old Chelsea-Manchester Rd., Chelsea. Info: Bill Altenberndt, WB8HSN, (734) 475-7938 Rpt: 145.450(-). 5/02

**Hiawatha Amateur Radio Assoc. of Marquette Co.** P.O. Box 1183, Marquette, MI 49855. Meets 1st Thurs./monthly, 7:30 p.m., 108 Stratfort, K.I. Sawyer AFB, MI. For info contact: Richard Schwenke, N8GBA, (906) 249-3837. [www.qsl.net/k8l0d](http://www.qsl.net/k8l0d) 11/01

## MINNESOTA

**St. Cloud Amateur Radio Club.** Meets 3rd Thurs./monthly, 7 p.m., Radio Club Bldg., 401 4th St. N., Waite Park, MN 56387. Info: (320) 255-1410, 146.94 or 147.015 or [www.w0sv.org/](http://www.w0sv.org/) 2/02

## MISSOURI

**Macon County ARC.** P.O. Box 13, Macon, MO 63552. Meets last Thurs./monthly, 7 p.m., Macon R-I High Sch., rm.167. Net every Wed., 8:30 p.m. 146.805. E-mail: [nopr@arll.net](mailto:nopr@arll.net) 3/02

## NEVADA

**Carson Valley Radio Club (CVRC).** Meets: 3rd Sat./monthly, 10 a.m. (Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., & Oct.), Hill-top Com. Church, 3616 No. Sunridge Drive, Carson City, NV. Rptr.: 147.270(+). <http://www.cvrc.net>. For information: Dick Flanagan, W6OLD, (775) 267-4900, or [w6old@arll.net](mailto:w6old@arll.net) 4/02

**Frontier Amateur Radio Society, (FARS).** Meets: 2nd Sat./monthly, bkfst. mtg. 9 a.m., Country Inn, 1990 West Sunset, corner of Valle Verde, Henderson, NV. Info: J. Frye, NW7O, (702) 456-5396 or B. Scan-borough, WA6ASI, (702) 269-9551 8/01

**Sierra Intermountain Emergency Radio Assoc., (SIERA).** Meets 2nd Thurs./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Minden Med. Cntr, Hwy 395 & Ironwood Dr., Minden, NV. Info: George Uebele, WW7E, (775) 265-4278, [ww7e@arll.net](mailto:ww7e@arll.net), Rpt. 147.330 MHz. 1/02

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Port City ARC, (PCARC), W1WQM.** P.O. Box 1587, Portsmouth, NH 03802. Meets 1st Wed./monthly (Sept.-June), The Edgewood Ctr., 928 So. St., Portsmouth. Rptr. 146.805(-) PL 127.3, 110.9, 88.5. 2/02

## NEW JERSEY

**Bergen Amateur Radio Association, (BARA).** P.O. Box 304, Hackensack, NJ 07601. Meets 1st Sun./monthly, New Milford Elks Lodge, Patrolman Ray Woods Dr., New Milford, NJ 07646. Nets: 28.350 Mon. 9 p.m., 146.79(-) 9 p.m. Wed. 8/02

**Jersey Coast DX Assoc. (JCDXA).** P.O. Box 357, Bradley Beach, NJ 07720. Meets 4th Wed./monthly, 7:30 p.m., MARS Station on Ft. Monmouth, Rt. 35 & Tinton Ave., Eatontown, NJ. Info: Mike, KC2Q (732) 774-1095 [kc2q@arll.net](mailto:kc2q@arll.net) 3/02

**The Garden State Amateur Radio Assoc., (GSARA).** Meets 1st & 3rd Wed./monthly, 8 p.m., MARS Bldg., Fort Monmouth, NJ. Info: B. Buus, W2OD, (732) 946-8615. 2/02

## NEW YORK

**Amateur Radio Association of the Tonawandas, (ARATS).** P.O. Box 430, No. Tonawanda, NY 14120. Meets 3rd Tues./monthly (except July & Aug.), 7:30 p.m., Sweeney Hose Co., 499 Zimmerman St., No. Tonawanda, NY. Talk-in: 146.955(-) rptr. W2SEX. 2/02

**Hall of Science ARC.** P.O. Box 150131, Kew Gardens, NY 11415. Meets 2nd Tue./monthly, Hall of Science Bldg., 47-01 111 St., Flushing Meadow Park, 7:30 p.m. Info: Voice mail (718) 760-2022. 3/02

**PROS, Pioneer Radio Operators Society.** Meets 1st Wed./monthly, 7 p.m., Sardinia Town Hall, Savage Rd., Sardinia, NY. K. Moon, N2IFG, (716) 652-0923. 8/02

**South Towns Amateur Radio Soc. (STARS).** Meets 1st Thurs./monthly, 7 p.m., Hamburg Youth Cntr, Prospect Ave. Hamburg, NY (exc. Jul, Aug @ NIKE Base). Info: N2TEZ, 120 University Ave., Depew, NY 14043. Rpt: WB2ELW 147.090 (+) PL107.2 [www.WB2ELW.com](http://www.WB2ELW.com). 2/02

**Suffolk County Radio Club.** P.O. Box 283, Shirley, NY 11967. Meets 3rd Tues./monthly, 8 p.m., Bohemia Rec Ctr., Ruzicka Way, Bohemia, NY. Contact: Leskb2zhf@aol.com. Club info: (631) 399-4041 8/02

**Westchester Emergency Comm. Assoc., (WECA).** Meets 2nd Mon./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Westchester County Ctr., White Plains, NY. Contact WECA INFO LINE (914) 741-6606 for details. Talk-in WB2ZII/R 147.06(+), PL 114.8/2A. 11/01

**Yonkers ARC, (YARC).** Meets 2nd Sun./monthly, 10 a.m., 1st Pct., Yonkers Police Station, E. Grassy Sprain Rd., Yonkers, NY. Info: P.O. Box 378, Centuck Sta., Yonkers, NY 10710. (914) 963-1021. 146.665(-), 440.150(+). 2/02

## NORTH CAROLINA

**Randolph ARC.** Meets 4th Tues./monthly, 7 p.m., Asheboro Pub. Lib, NC, Worth & Cox St., downstairs mtg. rm. Talk-in KJ4AV Rpt., 147.255+. Info: Butch, WS4H. ([butch@atomic.nit](mailto:butch@atomic.nit)), or John, W4ZJN, (336) 498-1113. Net. Mon., 8 p.m. 147.255+ Rpt. 6/02

**Stanly County Amateur Radio Club.** Stanfield, NC. Meets 4th Thurs./monthly, 7 p.m. Talk-in 146.985(-) for location. Wed. net 9 p.m. 146.985(-). Fri. tech net 9 p.m. 147.390(+). Ph: (704) 888-4815. [www.mdsmm.com/scarc/](http://www.mdsmm.com/scarc/) 7/02

## OHIO

**Ashtabula County ARC.** Ken Venback, W8KS (964-7316). County Sto-Ed School, Jefferson, OH. Meets 3rd Tue./monthly, 7:30 p.m., County rptr., 146.715(-). 2/02

**Clyde Amateur Radio Society (CARS).** Meets 2nd Tue./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Municipal Bldg., Clyde, OH 43410. NF8E rptr. 145.35(-) and 442.625(+) MHz. Net Sun. 9 p.m. Info: E. Remaley, KA8CAS. 1/02

**Van Wert ARC, Inc.** Meets 1st & 3rd Sat./monthly, 8 p.m., Van Wert County EMA Office, 1220 Ridge Rd., Van Wert, OH 45891. Call-in: 146.25/.85. [www.redrivial.com/w8fy](http://www.redrivial.com/w8fy) 7/02

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Mercer County ARC, W3LIF.** P.O. Box 996, Sharon, PA 16146. Meets 4th Tue./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Shenango Valley Med. Ctr, Farrell, PA. Net, Thurs. 9 p.m. on 145.35(-) W3LIF, Digi. 147.585. 8/02

## TEXAS

**Tri-County ARC for Parker, Tarrant & Wise Counties, (WC5C).** Meets 1st Sat./monthly, 6:30 p.m., El Paseo Restaurant, Stewart St. at Main, Azle, TX. Info: kb5ylg@yahoo.com or (817) 291-5816 2/02

## VIRGINIA

**Mt. Vernon ARC (MVARC).** Meets 2nd Thur./monthly (except Dec.), 7:30 p.m., INOVA Mount Vernon Hospital, 2nd floor, ENG Conference Cntr. Rm. Info: Bob, KT4KS, (703) 765-2313. E-mail: [mvarc@juno.com](mailto:mvarc@juno.com). Web: [www.mvarc.org/](http://www.mvarc.org/). Net: Tue., 8:30 p.m. 146.655-. 10/02

**Ole Virginia Hams ARC, (OVH).** Meets 3rd Mon./monthly, 8 p.m., Northern Virginia Electric Coop. Tech Cntr., 5399 Wellington Rd., Gainesville, VA. Info: Mary Lu, KB4EFP, (703) 369-2877. <http://www.qsl.net/olevahams> 3/02

**Southern Peninsula Amateur Radio Klub, (SPARK).** Meets 1st Tue./monthly, 8 p.m., Sal. Army Bldg., Big Bethel Rd, Hampton, VA. Info: Dave Jarrett, W9RCC, (757) 713-5212 or e-mail: [w4qr@arll.net](mailto:w4qr@arll.net). Talk-in on 444.55+ PL167.9 7/02

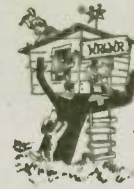
**Virginia Beach ARC.** Meets 1st Thurs./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Virginia Wesleyan College, Wesleyan Drive off North Hampton, Village 2 Commons, Graybeale Bldg., Virginia Beach, VA. 2/02

## WEST VIRGINIA

**Tri-State Amateur Radio Association.** Meets 3rd Tues./monthly, 7p.m., Museum of Radio & Tech., 1640 Florence Ave., Huntington, WV 25701. (304) 525-8890. 8/02

## WYOMING

**University ARC.** Meets 1st Tues./monthly, 7:30 p.m., Univ. of WY, Engineering Bldg., rm. 2100, Laramie, WY. 146.01/61. 12/01



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# Contributing to the quality of life

I am writing this just after coming home from the monthly meeting of the Florida West Coast DX Ring, where we completed planning for our annual Field Day excursion to Clearwater Beach. And that led me to wonder how many QCWA chapters make any effort to participate in the ARRL-sponsored Field Day events scheduled for the last "full" (Saturday and Sunday) weekend of June. And if not, why not? The charter of the QCWA reads, in part, that we are "a non-commercial association of radio amateurs organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation, for the establishment and advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare."

Well, now, promoting interest in Amateur Radio communication as well as establishing and advancing public welfare fit like hand and glove into Field Day, do they not? I tend to think so, which has stimulated my interest in just how many of our QCWA Chapters, as Chapters, normally participate in this opportunity to advance their own

emergency field operation skills and hopefully advertise their commitment to the welfare of the body politic.

Let me tell you a true story about a couple of folks that few of us, if any, remember anything about. I speak of Dr. Selman Waksman, the discoverer of the wonder drug Streptomycin, and of Dr. Charles R. Mott, CEO of the YMCA of the USA who was responsible for directing the resettlement of over a hundred thousand homeless refugees during the years of World War II. Dr. Waksman received the Nobel Prize for Medicine and Dr. Mott the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1945, the first Nobel Awards ceremony after World War II, in Stockholm, Sweden.

The Master of Ceremonies at the Nobel Awards banquet was King Gustav of Sweden. Seated on one side of him was Dr. Waksman, and next to him was Dr. Mott, who often spoke of the events and the conversations at the table that night. The literati of the world were gathered at the table that night to celebrate the resumption of the Nobel Awards after five long years of international conflict.

The great names in medicine, science, government, the humanities and the

arts had gathered there. In addition to King Gustav of Sweden, there was King Hakon of Denmark and King Christian of Norway, along with seven Presidents or Prime Ministers of other nations of the world. This banquet and ceremony truly represented a glittering array of power, of prestige and international status.

During the meal, King Gustav turned to Dr. Waksman and asked him, "Don't you think that one day, you will look back upon this awards banquet and ceremony as by far the most memorable event in your life? Will not the memories of the award you are receiving this evening remain with you always as a mark of the success you have achieved in the field of medicine?"

Dr. Waksman looked troubled as he listened to the King. But then after a few seconds pause, he slowly and thoughtfully answered King Gustav. "Yes," Dr. Waksman replied, "I shall always cherish this day as an important day to remember. But I want you to know that yesterday is a day that I will remember even more. Yes, yesterday is definitely, by far, the more memorable for me of these two days here."

The King was surprised, and said to Dr. Waksman, "How so? Why yes-



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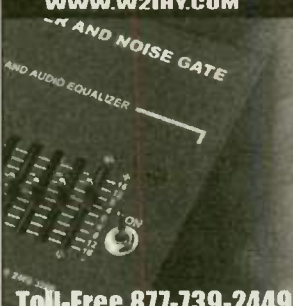
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



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terday? There was no program then, and there were no ceremonies held. We simply met for an hour or so to make sure that all those who were to receive their awards tonight were introduced to one another. Why would you remember some introductions as being more important than tonight, when you will be presented the Nobel Prize for Medicine, and you will be the recipient of the accolades of over 200 of the world's greatest achievers?"

Dr. Waksman's answer was something very much worth hearing. "Your majesty," Dr. Waksman replied, "It is true that yesterday we first met one another, along with all of the other nineteen Nobel Prize Laureates. But it was during that time, as we stood around chatting with one another, that a pretty little nine-year-old girl and her father came up to me and introduced themselves. The little girl held five rosebuds in her hand, which she gave to me, and said, "these roses are for you, Dr. Waksman. I bought them with the candy and ice-cream money I have saved, because my daddy told me that someday, I might meet you here and I could thank you then for saving my life."

"The father then spoke, up and explained, "Dr. Waksman, those five roses have a very special meaning for my little girl. At the age of four, she was dying from hemo-toxemia, and there seemed to be no hope for her. But then, just in time, we learned that you had discovered Steptomycin, which we were able to give to her, and it saved her life. This week she is nine years old, so that every rose-bud she has given you represents a year of her life — a year that she would not have lived had it not been for you and your work and your discovery."

Then Dr. Waksman concluded, "And that, your majesty, is what happened yesterday that makes yesterday so important for me to remember. A little girl brought me five roses, and by doing so, she reminded me that no work, no discovery, and no award means anything unless it somehow contributes to improving the quality of life."

Field Day, along with many other public service programs and events in which QCWA members, and some chapters, participate is in keeping with Dr. Waksman's discovery that no work, no discovery, and no award means anything unless it contributes to improving the quality of life. Advancing the public welfare, making a positive difference in the communities in which we live, and setting an example of perfection in operating skills are all things within the reach of each of us, both individually and collectively. For after all, are we not the Proud, the Many, the Elite, the Innovative and the Inquisitive — the QCWA? Of course we are! And if there is anyone reading this column who does not belong to the QCWA and was first licensed by the FCC 25 years or more ago, and who would like to be one of us, simply send an e-mail message to our General Manager, Jim Walsh, at QCWA Headquarters: jwalsh@teleport.com, drop him a snail-mail note at 159 E. 16th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97401-4017.

Meanwhile, don't forget the 8-day QCWA-sponsored Amateur Radio Cruise to the Caribbean Islands on 27 October - 4 November 2001. This is my last reminder that you do not have to be affiliated with the QCWA to participate. The cruise is open to all, and if you are a radio amateur or spouse/widow then you qualify for the special cruise discount. Contact Larry McAlvey, WA9JMO at 262/639-7327 or by e-mail to: wa9jmo@wi.net. Or call the White Travel folks at 800/547-4790 and reserve your stateroom without delay.

That's it for this time, friends. Please remember that it is what we give to Amateur Radio, its licensees and its affiliated groups, not what we take from them, that has the potential of improving the quality of life and contributing to the public welfare in our communities.

- Alan Pickering, KJ9N, our QCWA columnist can be reached by sending snail mail to: 620 Gran Kaymen Way, Apollo Beach, FL 33572, or by e-mail at: kj9n@juno.com.

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## The Worldradio SD-20 antenna support

Mike Greenfield, N9JIY

**R**ecently, I saw the *Worldradio* ad for the "SD-20 Antenna Support", -- incredibly strong, ...compact at 47 inches, extends to 20 feet, etc. I had the 20 bucks. Soon I had an SD-20.

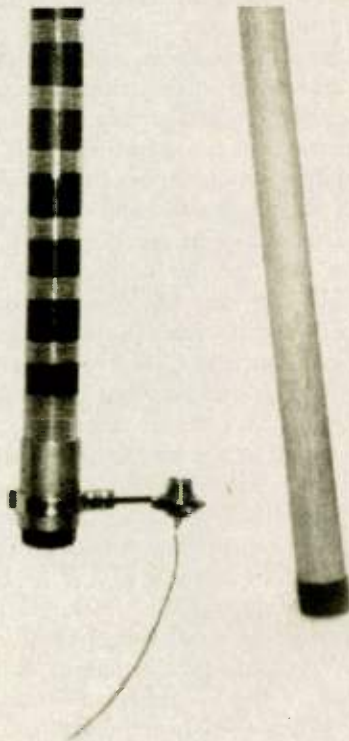
It IS lightweight, ...less than 2 lbs. It's made of very smooth, tapered, thinwall, black tubular material. Six sections extend and friction-lock at 20ft total length. Collapsed, with the end caps on, it's just 46.5 in long. It seems to scream, "Make me into a compact vertical antenna of some kind".

The top five sections extend to 15.67 ft, ...almost a 20-meter quarter-wave (234/15.67=14.9mHz) I didn't want to spread ground radials at a populated site. What to do?? I went to my computer and asked a piece of software this question: "What coil at the diameter of the SD-20 bottom section would make a 44-inch-long antenna resonant at 14.0MHz?" This might match the top longer section, making an odd sort of vertical dipole? NO RADIALS NEEDED! Worth a try.

1. Measured down the bottom section 18.75in and close-wound 30 turns of 22 guage coil wire.

2. Left leads on the coil long enough to reach past each end.

3. Painted the coil with lots of clear



nail polish to stabilize it.

4. Fastened the leads up and down the section with packing tape rings.

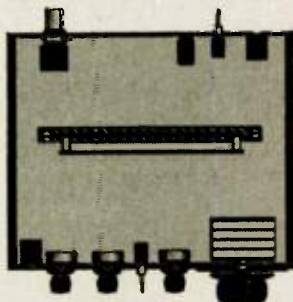
So, here's what I did on the bottom section with some 22 ga enamel magnet wire.

I left the wire loose at the top six inches of the section, and sanded the insulation off it.

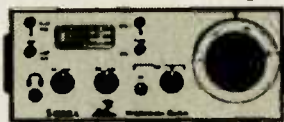
Next, I got a 1-inch copper pipe union at a hardware store and split it lengthwise. I wedged the union open to the diameter of very top of the SD-20 bottom section, greased it inside with conductive grease, and slipped it over the very end of the SD-20, AND over the end of the (now) bare wire lead. I kept the wire pulled tight as I slipped the union over it. I eased the wedges out of the union and let it clamp tight on the end of the SD-20 AND the wire lead. I put more tape loops over the wire.

For info, the union forces the SD-20

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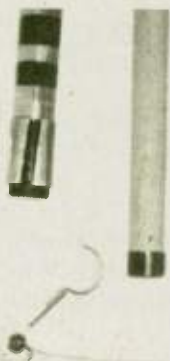
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UG-21D/9913	N Male for RG-8 with 9913 Pin	4.00
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the SD-20 full length, then ran wire down from the extended tip of the SD-20, and alligator-clipped it to the connector center. I made eight long turns around the SD-20 on the way down from the tip. Coax from the connector to my tuner, and I was on the air. 20M was easy. Other bands took quite a bit of tuner-fiddling. I ran only 35watts.

The pictures give an idea of what it looks like assembled.

Supporting the antenna — I use a 4 ft x 1/2 in wood dowel, padded out with rings of friction tape to wedge inside the SD-20 lower section, leaving about 18 in of dowel exposed. This 18 in is poked into a hole of some kind. The antenna is very light. It doesn't catch much wind. It doesn't take much to hold it up, and if it falls over it probably won't do much damage. Just the same be careful of other folks and electrical hazards, like good hams always do. ☺

end a little out-of-round, but this doesn't hurt anything. The grease is the stuff electricians use to make aluminum electrical connections more conductive.

To connect coax to the antenna, I "captured" a coax female bulkhead connector in the twinlead loop of a snap-on TV twinlead standoff. Then I bent the snap end open enough to clamp over the copper union. I extended

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## From the mouths of babes

**F**or the past 14 years I have had the honor of moderating the Youth Forum at the Dayton HAMVENTION. All of the children through the years have proven to be young adults we can all be proud of, in the way they conduct themselves personally, and in the hobby and service of Amateur Radio.

This year was no exception to the rule. Each and every child who gave a presentation made a big impression on the standing room only audience there to show support for youth in Amateur Radio. At this point I'd like to extend my thanks to the audience who were attentive, responsive and extremely courteous to all the speakers. As a forum moderator I can tell you that the audience plays a big role in making the youngsters feel comfortable. It's not easy for a child to get up in front of a big group of people and to do a presentation that they've worked very hard on for several months.

The first speaker was Crystal Melhom, W9IOU, who is 15 and comes from Illinois. Her talk was about "Promoting Amateur Radio To Young People." Crystal comes from an all Ham family, which is the most common way for kids to get introduced to Ham radio. She and her dad participate in many activities like DXing and foxhunting through the organized efforts of their local radio club.

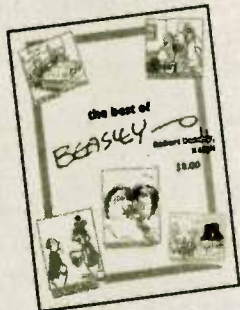
They both believe strongly that we should all use the Internet to help promote the hobby to children. They suggest that local clubs should have their own web sites and advertise the activities they are sponsoring. It's important to help build the reputation of the club as a good place for children to go to have fun and to do interesting things.

Zane Wruble, W2YL, is 12 years old and is from New York City. Zane's topic was "Getting Awards." She's extremely qualified to speak on this topic since she's gotten most of the awards herself already. Several weeks before Dayton she received her DXCC.

For Worked All Zones she has worked 34 of 40 with 33 confirmed. Zane got a good laugh from the rest of us when she explained that "School has slowed her down." We wish her good luck with her contesting. I know we'll be hearing more from this Extra Class young lady.

Next up from the BARC Jr. group (who are always a wonderful presence at the Youth Forum) was Benjamin Arthur, KCØISG, who is 10 years old. Ben gave a terrific talk entitled, "How I Got My Ham Radio License." He delighted the audience with his anecdotal account of how his all Ham family kept challenging and encouraging him until he finally got his Technician Class license. At the end he pointed out to all of us that he was only nine years old when he got his ticket, good going Ben!

Jonathan Troup, KØDE, is 13 years old and is also from the Boulder, Colorado group. He holds an Extra Class license and gave his talk on "Elmering To Kids." I found this talk particularly interesting, because it's a



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concept we don't often think of utilizing. Using bright, articulate youngsters to teach other kids is a super idea. I asked him if there were any problems with the other children accepting his role, and he told us "absolutely not!" His final words to the audience were, "Remember, if a kid can Elmer, so can you."

The next young lady wowed the audience with her very dramatic presentation about the 14'er Event. Kristin Wilson, KCØINX, is 12 years old and is from BARC Jr. too. This event promotes the combining of Amateur Radio with mountain climbing to "reach new heights." What made her presentation so exceptional was that she showed us what it was like to assemble the antenna in the event rather than just talk about it. I continue to be impressed with children like Kristin who add so much to our hobby and can share it with the rest of us in such an entertaining manner.

Patrick Clark, KC8BFD, is 16 years old and is from West Virginia. This was Patrick's second time doing a presentation at the Youth Forum. He's a young man who is truly dedicated to the service aspect of Amateur Radio. He did a power point demonstration talking about APRS and the benefits

in emergencies. Patrick is also from a Ham family and is definitely a credit to his parents and a great representative for all the hard working Ham radio operators who volunteer their time and expertise to help others.

I can't say enough good things about the children who participated in the 2001 Youth Forum. They were all truly wonderful!

I'd also like to extend my personal thanks to all the folks who continue to support my program by donating terrific door prizes for the kids. ICOM was in there as usual, donating a beautiful 2-meter rig. MFJ provided many radio accessories and kits. Ralph Irish, WA8GDT, from Utica, Michigan along with his radio club added many donations for the kids, and has always attended the Youth Forum to show his support. *Worldradio* was generous in donating a life subscription as a gift. Ten-year old Stephanie was presented with the gift by Rick McCusker, WF6O. She is presently studying for her license. Good luck Stephanie.

It's not too early to be on the alert for articulate and enthusiastic young people who would be interested in appearing at next year's Youth Forum. Please have them contact me at P.O. Box 131646, Staten Island, N.Y. 10313-0006.

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## Inside Amateur Radio

The following story has been excerpted from *Inside Amateur Radio*, by the late Lenore Jensen, W6NAZ. The book can be purchased from *Worldradio Books*, P.O. Box 189490, Sacramento, CA 95818. Price is \$9.00 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling. CA residents please add 70¢ sales tax.

## Two Marys

To amateurs, their call signs are almost as important as their names. Mary Weddle, WC4T, found a new friend because of it. "When I finally met her at the Charlotte (North Carolina) Hamfest, it was the culmination of a curious search. I came away with a dear new friend.

"It all started about a year ago, when one of our Charlotte traveling-salesman Hams squawked a scratchy signal into one of our local mountaintop repeaters. 'Hey, Mary, I've just left the Roanoke (Virginia) area, and there's a lady up

there with the same name as yours and almost the same call.'

"Oh sure, I replied, thinking it was a joke. But he went on, 'Her name is Mary Waddell and her call is WC4A; your name is Mary Weddle and your call is WC4T; now don't you think that's an amazing coincidence?'

"I did. Well, later at the hamfest, someone tapped me on the shoulder. I turned around to see a petite, attractive brunette lady. It was immediate recognition. Before she could tell me, I knew just who she was!"

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WORLD RADIO, September 2001 51

## A regen companion for the Tuna Tin 2

**A**tattered edition of the "How to Become a Radio Amateur" from 1963 held the blueprint for the magic that would become my first QRP homebrewing experience in the mid-'60s.

The book contained "full information on setting up your own Amateur Radio station," offering a couple of circuits for simple gear to get you on the air.

A schematic for a single tube oscillator/transmitter using a 6DQ6A beam power amplifier tube was modified at my Novice station, WN1DWL, to incorporate a single 807 pumping out a mighty 5 to 10 watts. That was QRP at the time. An abandoned TV set was my "parts house."

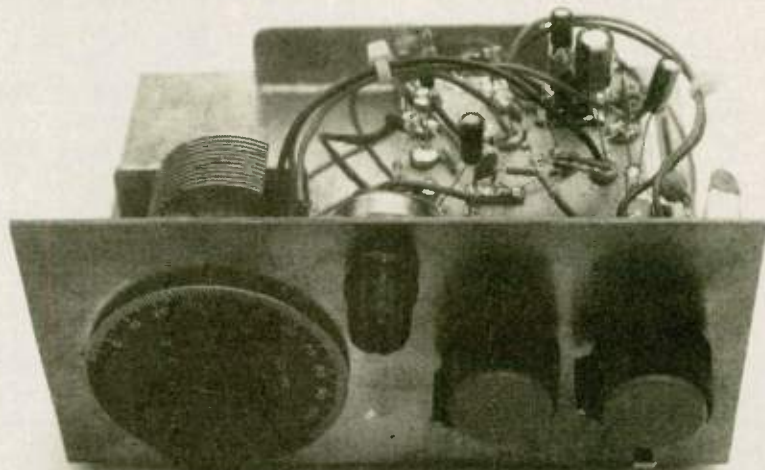
The receiver featured in that classic ARRL publication was a two-tube regenerative with a pair of 6AQ5s — one tube for the detector; the other for audio amplification.

While parts and chassis from both the 'DWL transmitter and receiver were cannibalized many years ago for other homebrew projects, good memories linger to this day of those bare-bones scratch-built projects.

The resurgence of Doug DeMaw, W1FB's, classic 1976 Tuna Tin-2 milliwatt CW transmitter has brought a palpable wave of nostalgia to QRP that has not been lost on this operator.

Using the TT-2 in concert with a Kenwood TS-140 receiver at KI6SN, though, just hasn't felt right. That uncomfortable clash of old vs. new got me to thinking: Isn't it about time to again experience the joy of Edwin Howard Armstrong's remarkable invention — the regen?

It took only a few moments of grazing on the Internet to find a ton of regenerative receiver circuits. There are dozens of tube-based designs, but with a transistorized transmitter in the TT-2, it seemed fitting to keep things symmetrical. It didn't take long to find a solid state regen design that matched the TT-2's stark simplicity.



The KI6SN version of Charles Kitchin, N1TEV's, Simple Regen Radio is a great companion to the classic Tuna Tin-2 40-meter transmitter.

Several builders on the QRP Internet mail group QRP-L had been posting messages about their satisfaction with a neat little circuit designed by legendary regenerative aficionado Charles Kitchin, N1TEV. With a 2N2222 RF amplifier, a 1N34A diode detector and LM386 audio amplifier, it was the kind of circuit that could be a fitting companion to the famous transmitter in the tuna fish can.

A full article titled "A Simple Regen Radio for Beginners" popped up on the Internet at: [www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0009061.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0009061.pdf) (You'll need ACROBAT READER to view it). If you can't get to it, drop me a line and I'll get you a copy of the schematic one way or another.

The receiver had been featured in the September 2000 edition of *QST* magazine. QRPers on the Internet were applauding its simplicity and utility as a short wave receiver. From the accolades it was receiving on the mail group, I suspected it might work nicely as a QRP station receiver as well — with the TT-2 in tow.

For more meticulous on-air work, Kitchin suggests adding a fine-tuning

circuit to the Simple Regen Radio incorporating a single potentiometer, two capacitors, a resistor and a diode. That seemed like a logical way to go, given the broad spectrum the receiver would cover via a 150 pF main tuning capacitor — roughly 4 to 10 MHz.

The KI6SN version was built using a combination of "Manhattan" and "ugly" construction. A small piece of double-sided printed circuit board served as the foundation for the radio. For convenience it was mounted on top of the main tank coil, which in this version is wound on a plastic 35mm film container. With the exception of the 150 pF tuning capacitor, all of the parts for the receiver are available from RadioShack. The radio runs off of a 9-volt battery that will give the operator many, many hours of listening pleasure.

It took only a couple of hours to build this radio from the ground up. I fashioned a chassis from double-sided PC board, leaving generous room on the front panel for main tuning, fine tuning, regeneration and audio controls as well as an ON/OFF B+ switch and a headphone jack. In a way, it was looking

a bit like the simple receivers I'd seen pictured in previous editions of "How to Become a Radio Amateur."

Frankly, after getting a running start using several small "Manhattan" PC island pads and a few "ugly" techniques, I was amazed by how quickly this circuit can come together. In a few blinks it was time to pop in a fresh 9-volt battery and see what this little radio could do.

After plugging in a pair of Walkman-style headphones and connecting my 40-meter dipole, the power switch was thrown. Bonsai! The dulcet tones of the studio announcer at KPRO AM 1570 came blasting through. Sweeping the main tuning capacitor across its range gave no discrimination to the received KPRO signal. It was all KPRO, all the time. The Simple Regen Radio was being swamped by RF from the commercial station, whose phased four-vertical antenna array is only three miles west of me. I was thinking for a time that there was no hope of recovery. The front end of the Kitchin regen just was no match for KPRO.

Disparaging a bit, I reviewed Kitchin's original article. "You can receive dozens of international shortwave broadcast stations at night, even indoors, using a 39-inch whip antenna."

In this configuration could a 39-inch antenna be preferable to a half-wave 40-meter dipole? It was worth a try. I grabbed some hookup wire, measured a piece about the length of my arm and alligator-clipped it to the Simple Regen Radio's antenna terminal.

Instantly the mind-numbing KPRO signal disappeared and the shortwaves came alive. I was hearing the BBC from London in one place. Tuning a bit to the left was WWV at 5 MHz. Sweeping up to the other end I found WWV at 10 MHz. Wow. Amazing how sensitive regenerative receivers can be — with only a whisp of an antenna.

When reaching for the regeneration and tuning controls I noticed a slight shift in frequency. This is caused by what seasoned regenerative users know as "hand capacity." Putting a clip-lead between the receiver's chassis and

ground took care of that instability, though. Now we were cooking.

It wasn't hard to find the 40-meter band. Gently turning the main tuning capacitor, there was a hot spot of SSB activity. A slight move to the left put us right in the middle of the CW portion of the band.

At this point I was thankful to have put in the fine-tuning circuit. It would have been almost impossible to use this radio for QRP CW work without it. Indeed, once the main tuning capacitor is set for the general area of the band you want to tune, the fine tuning potentiometer then refines the tuning sweep to about 30 KHz — a very comfortable range for brass pounding operations.

And that 39 inch antenna? It's all this little receiver needs. W1AW's code practice session pounds in to this West Coast locale S-9 using the Simple Regen Radio. I've copied 40-meter Japanese CW stations with ease in the early morning hours. And Eastern U.S. coast stations are loud and clear at night here, too.

Since the Simple Regen is self contained with its own antenna, using it with the Tuna Tin-2 eliminates the need for T/R antenna switching. The two little radios make a great pair.

Calling CQ in mid-morning on 4 July brought a response from Barry Pfeil, K3KOA, in Mountain View, CA more than 400 miles northwest of me near San Francisco. He was S-8 on the Simple Regen Radio — with the yard-long piece of hookup wire for its antenna. Barry gave me 500 milliwatts an S-7, through some pretty heavy QSB. We chatted for about a half hour. I was able to fine tune to either side of his transmitting frequency to avoid a bit of QRM. KOA was solid copy and quite loud at KI6SN about 65 miles east of Los Angeles.

If you're looking for a "period piece" receiver as a companion to the Tuna-Tin 2, N1TEV's Simple Regen Radio is a wonderful addition to the minimalist QRP'er's operating position.

— Richard Fisher, KI6SN, our very low-powered columnist can be reached via email: [ki6sn@aol.com](mailto:ki6sn@aol.com).

## W9DXCC convention set for September

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Safety Committee Chairman Greg Lapin, N9GL, will discuss "RF Safety and Your Linear," and ARRL Central Division Dick Isely, W9GIG and Vice-Director Howie Huntington, K9KM, will lead the ARRL Forum, which will include former 9-Lander Dave Patton, NT1N, who is among those at HQ involved with the ARRL Logbook of the World project. Jim O'Connell, W9WU, will represent the ARRL DX Advisory Committee. Of course, there will be DXCC card checking. More details and registration is available at the W9DXCC Web site, [www.qth.com/w9dxcc](http://www.qth.com/w9dxcc). — ARRL Letter

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## Cycle 23 Update

In last month's column, I mentioned that it was highly likely that Cycle 23 reached its peak in April 2000 with an SSN (smoothed sunspot number) of about 121. Since my last dedicated update on Solar Cycle 23 was in the December 2000 column, it's time to take another detailed look at Cycle 23's status — some interesting things have happened since the December column.

The big news is that Cycle 23 appears to have peaked in April of this year at an SSN of 120.8. Figure 1 is a plot of the most recent data, and it clearly shows what appears to be the peak. Also included in Figure 1 is a plot of Cycle 20. Cycle 23 has been fairly

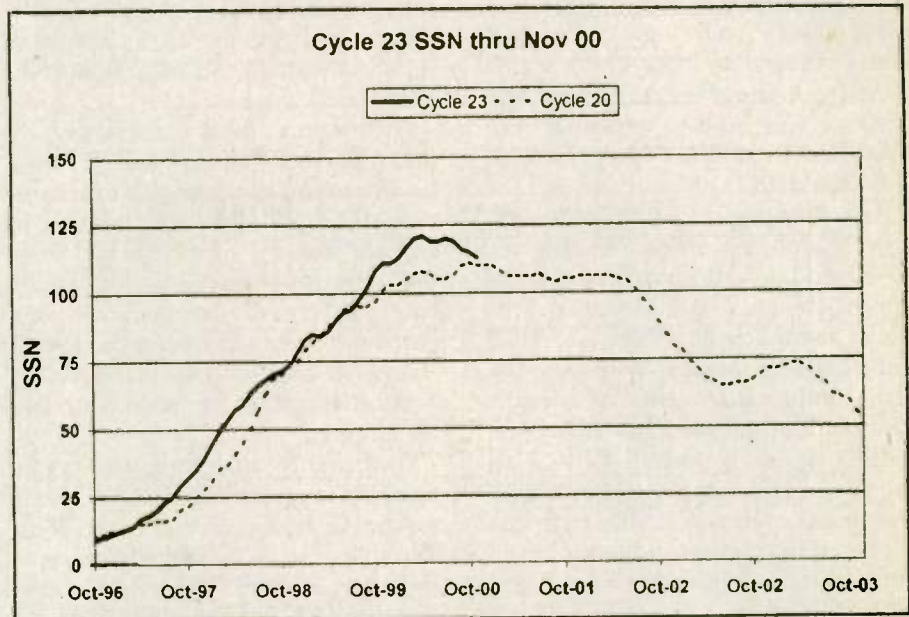


Figure 1 Solar Cycle 23 status.

similar to Cycle 20, so Cycle 20 is a good one to use to try to extrapolate what Cycle 23 may do.

Another indication that the peak occurred in April was the February 15 report by NASA scientists that the sun's magnetic field flipped. What that means is the sun's magnetic north pole, which was in the northern solar hemisphere early in the year, now points south. This transition happens like clockwork (as far as we know) at the peak of every cycle. An interesting point — the Earth's magnetic field also

flips, but with less regularity. The last time it did was some 740,000 years ago. For more detailed information on the sun's magnetic field reversal, go to [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2001/ast15feb\\_1.htm?list78858](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2001/ast15feb_1.htm?list78858).

From Figure 1, the question to ask is "what will Cycle 23 do?" Will it make a gradual descent from where it is now? Or will it level off for a while, like Cycle 20 did, before making its descent to minimum? There are predictions for the remainder of Cycle 23 out there, but only time will tell what it really does.

The impact of reaching the peak of a solar cycle and starting down depends on which end of the HF spectrum you're interested in. If you're interested in our higher bands (15M, 12M, and



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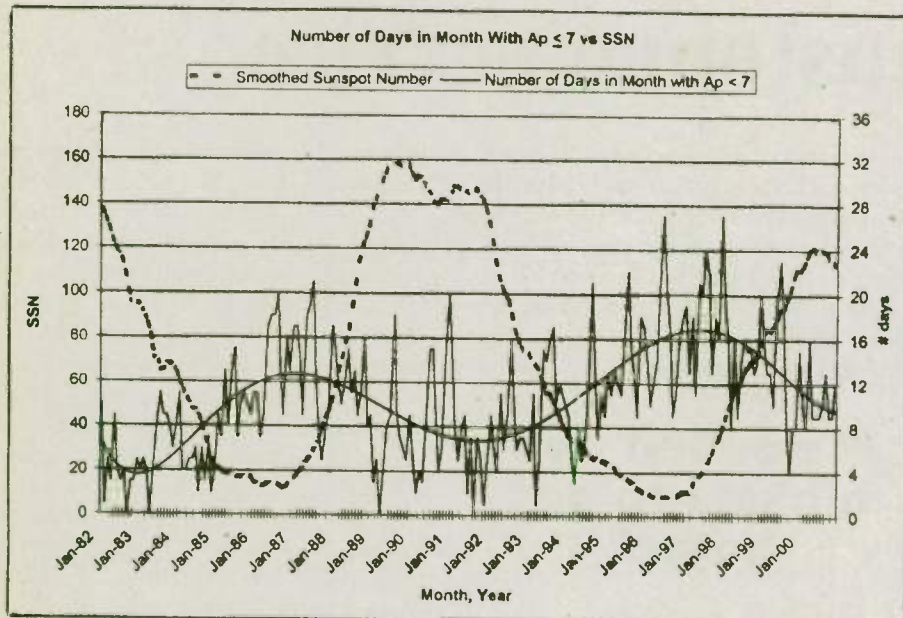


Figure 2 Solar cycle magnetic activity

10M), then the excellent worldwide propagation that we're experiencing will continue for another couple years. That's because the descent to solar minimum is much slower than the ascent to solar maximum. This can be partially seen in the plot of Cycle 20 in Figure 1 – it took about four years to get to the peak, and then just over 7 years to reach minimum.

For those interested in the lower bands (160M and 80M), reaching the peak of a solar cycle is kind of like seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. We know the really good days are coming, but they're still several years off. That's because we're just now entering the most stormy phase of the solar cycle. Figure 2 (an updated version of the plot in the August 1999 column) is a plot of the SSN (the thick dashed line) for each month from the end of Cycle 21 up through November 2000. Also shown is the number of days during each month that the planetary magnetic index  $A_p$  was less than or equal to 7, signifying a quiet geomagnetic field (generally best for low band propagation). The actual  $A_p$  data is kind of spiky, so I added a trend line (the thin solid line that looks sinusoidal) to better see what's happening.

What's obvious from the plot is that the stormiest period of a sunspot cycle, magnetically speaking, is during the descending portion of a solar cycle. That's when the trend line is minimum. Taking a look at the history of solar flares indeed supports this. From 1976 (the start of Cycle 21) to the present,

there have been 24 flares of magnitude X9.0 and greater. Of these 24 flares, 20 occurred after solar maximum. And not too long ago (April 2 to be specific), the biggest flare so far of Cycle 23 occurred. To summarize, low band enthusiasts will have to put up with tough (but not impossible) conditions for several more years before the really good days return.

There you have it – an update on Cycle 23. I'll have brief updates every couple months in the regular columns, and a more extensive update down the road a bit.

## Oceania DX contest

The OCEANA DX contest, formally known as the VK/ZL Oceania DX Contest, is about to re-emerge as the premier contest in ITU Region III. Both the New Zealand Amateur Radio Transmitters and the Wireless Institute of Australia Presidents have appointed Brian Miller, ZL1AZE and Martin Luther, VK5GN, to lead the formation of a joint management committee for the 2001 Oceania DX Contest. ZL1AZE will chair the 2001 committee. — Q-News, Newsline

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NEW

## Real customer service

Bill Schuchman, W7YS

**Y**ears ago, Cortland Street in downtown Manhattan, New York City, was to Amateur Radio what Dayton is now, but it was open every day except Sundays. Store after store, on both sides of the street were filled with all sorts of radio gear. It was called "Radio Row." Although I probably visited it many times, there is one visit that I will never forget.

As a boy of 15, I was bitten by the "Radio Bug" when I was exposed to Amateur Radio by my high school teacher W2KGA in a small village in the Catskill Mountains in 1938. In the Fall of that year, I was visiting my Grandmother in the Bronx, and I just had to go down to "Radio Row" and see if I could find a shortwave receiver to take back home. My Grandmother lived in the East Bronx, so I had to take a bus over to the subway, and then take the subway from 210th Street all the way downtown. The fare was only a nickel on the bus, and another nickel on the subway.

As I made my way down Cortland St., there were goodies everywhere, and suddenly, there in a window (I think it was a Davegas store), was a

used National FB-7 receiver! It had a price sticker on it that said "\$10." In my pocket I had one ten dollar bill and a nickel. I went into the store and told the clerk that I wanted to see the FB-7, so he took it out of the window and put it on the counter. I opened the top and looked inside, turned the tuning

**"I needed two nickels to get home"**

dial and the knobs, and I knew I had to have it. I told the clerk that I could only pay \$9.95 for the radio because I needed two nickels to get home (one for the subway, and one for the bus). Do you think he would come down five cents on that radio? He looked at me (I don't even think he said "sorry kid"), and he put the radio back in the window! Finally, I said "OK, I'll take it for \$10." I remember carrying it in my lap on the subway all the way to 210th St., and then WALKING three miles down Gun Hill Road to my Grandmother's house.

A year later, I finished high school and had a job in a radio repair shop in

Albany, N.Y. where the place to go for parts was "Uncle Dave's Radio Shack." Later, it was known as "Fort Orange Radio". It was a four story building devoted to nothing but radio parts. I wanted a pair of 40-meter plug in coils for the FB-7, and went down to the store where Uncle Dave personally waited on me and picked out a set of coils for me. His call was W2APF, now a Silent Key, but a guy who went out of his way to help new Hams.

Unfortunately, when I went off to WWII (Signal Corps) I left my radio at the Catskill Mountain boarding house where I worked in the summer. When I returned almost four years later, the man I had worked for was very happy to see me, but he said "I wish you had showed up three weeks earlier because I just took all that junk you left here to the dump!" I had almost forgotten this story, but when I visited W1AW a few years ago, there in the lobby, behind a glass case, was a National FB-7 just like the one I used to have. It sure brought back memories. I still remember that long walk on that hot Fall day clutching my prize — all because that penny-pinching clerk would not come down a measly nickel on the price! I'm sure he wasn't a Ham.

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# Kurt's 160-meter vertical

**A** reader asks, "I'm looking for a way to build a 160M vertical — or is this even practical? I have a yard that is not all that conducive to stringing out a wire for this band and I thought maybe if I could put up a 30 ft. +/- pole with a top loaded coil it might put me on the air. How would I calculate the necessary coil size — say for 100 watts or less?"

The reader couldn't have found a better place to ask that question. Krusty Old Kurt has a 30 ft. pole top-loaded for 160 Meters in his own yard. And it is living proof that such a short antenna actually works. It is considered short because a real quarter-wave vertical would be about 130 ft tall. A 30 foot pole is about 1/20 wavelength high and, if not top loaded, has a radiation resistance of a bit over one ohm. You want to raise this resistance as high as possible with top loading.

## Description

Kurt's vertical is a 30-foot pole of 3 in. diameter aluminum tubing. At the top there are 12 radial wires each 25 ft long equally spaced. At the end of each wire is an insulator. The other side of the insulator goes to a wire that runs to a tree, the garage, the house; whatever support can be found in that direction. A circle of wire connects the inside ends of the 25 ft wires together. The whole thing looks like a big parasol.

At the bottom are 32 radials, some buried, some on top of the ground. Lengths range from 30 to 60 ft. as space permitted. The resonance is at 2200 KHz. A base loading coil brings this down to the desired frequency in the 1800 KHz band. The measured resistance is about 12 ohms and a 4:1 wideband transformer matches the 50 ohm coax feedline.

## The pole

Start your own antenna design by deciding on the pole. The 30-foot height gives you only about one ohm

radiation resistance. If you can put up a taller pole do, it because the radiation resistance goes up as the square of the height. If you can't go any more than 30 feet don't be discouraged. Kurt easily works halfway across the U.S. with his and, with full power CW, Japan in one direction and Caribbean islands on the other.

Don't use a thin wire instead of a pole. If you must use wire use two parallel wires spaced 3' or so apart. This, or the 3" pole, gives more bandwidth. No matter what you do the antenna won't cover the whole 160-meter band. If it does then something is wrong. Short antennas are always narrowband unless they are lossy and inefficient. You don't want that.

## The top hat

Kurt's top hat takes a circular area 50 feet across for installation. And the 12 wires also need end supports. Ideally the end supports would allow the wire to go out horizontally (the ends 30 ft. up). Kurt couldn't do that so the wires tilt downward giving the parasol look. But keep them as high as you can.

That's a pretty ambitious top hat project. If you don't like that then just run out two top wires in opposite directions forming a "T" antenna. This will work just as well if you can make them long enough. If possible make them long enough to resonate just at the top end of the band. Then use the base-loading coil to bring the whole thing to frequency. If you can't make them long enough don't panic, just use a larger coil.

## The radials

Radials are an essential part of any short vertical. Don't even think of trying to work without them.

If you have the space make your radials 50 feet long or more. Longer is better. Try to put in at least 20 radials. More is better. And it is better to put in a lot of short radials than a few long ones. 50 ft. is short but if, for example, your house is in the way in one direction put radials in that direction no matter how short they have to be.

If you can get hold of a copy of *QST* for July 2000 read N6LF's article on ground systems. To go way back in time, W2FMI describes his 6-ft. 40-meter vertical (which is shorter in wavelengths than Kurt's 30-ft. 160-meter vertical) in March 1973 *QST*.

## The loading coil

For best efficiency there should be

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8X CD-ROM drive	

## Aerials

enough top loading to resonate the antenna on your operating frequency. But, as a practical matter, it's better to have it resonant somewhat higher in frequency. Then you can bring it to the exact frequency you want with a bottom coil. Remember, its not going to be broadband enough to cover the whole 160-meter band with low SWR so you need to make the final frequency adjustment down at the bottom.

Use a really good coil here. Quarter-inch refrigerator copper tubing is good and is easy to work with.

### Steer horn antenna

A loyal reader of Kurt's Klassy Kolumn described an antenna demonstration he had seen on a video tape. It looked like a dipole but, on each side of center about a quarter of the way out, it was bent at about a 45 angle for a short distance then bent back. So it looked like the horns on the Texas longhorn steers that were prevalent back in the days of the Frontier West. It was fed in the center just like a dipole.

In the video demonstration of a scale model in the gigahertz range a device

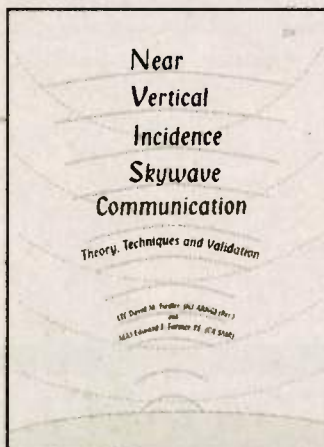
of some kind with an audio output was moved around the antenna. The pitch of the tone varied with field strength and was used to show the radiation pattern. Radiation was strong off the ends; negligible off the sides.

This is the opposite of the radiation pattern of a dipole. The reader wants Kurt's opinion of the antenna. Well, Krusty Old Kurt has lots of opinions and is always happy to spread them around especially when he smells a rat.

Moving a measuring meter around close to an antenna is not the way to find its radiation pattern. You need to move out several wavelengths and be in an open field without reflecting objects. A few small bends in a dipole will change the pattern a bit but not enough to make any major difference in the pattern.

An old saying goes: It doesn't matter what fancy name you give to it. If it looks like a duck, walks like a duck and quacks like a duck it *is* a duck. The Steer Horn Antenna looks like a dipole and in Kurt's always Korrekct opinion it *is* a dipole. Maximum radiation is off the sides, not the ends.

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# Contest Calendar

Dave Goodwin, VE2ZP

Contest	Date & Time	Bands	QSO points	Multipliers	Exchange	Entry Categories	Entries
All Asia SSB	0000Z 1 Sep 2359Z 2 Sep	160-10M SSB	1pt/20-10M QSO 2pt/80M QSO 3pt/160M QSO Work Asia only	Asian prefixes worked on each band	RS Age (YLs May send 00)	Single op: All bands, Single band Multi-op: Single or Multi-bx	30 Sep Box 377 Tokyo
LZ DX (Bulgaria)	1200Z 1 Sep 1200Z 2 Sep	80-10M CW	6pt/LZ 3pt/DX 1pt/NA	ITU Zones worked on each band	RST ITU Zone	Single Op: All bands, Single band; Multi-op, single bx SWL	1Mo Box 830 1000 Sofia
North Americans Sprint - CW	0000Z 2 Sep 0400Z 2 Sep	80-20M CW	1pt/QSO	Canadian Call areas, US States, other NA countries	Ser# Name QTH	Single op all bands only Entrants May combine their scores to form a "team".	1Mo N6TR
Michigan QRP Club Labor Day CW Sprint	2300Z 3 Sep 0300Z 3 Sep	160-6M CW	5pt/QSO with Member 4pt/DX 2pt/USA and Canada	US States, Canadian Provinces and Territories, DXCC countries Total score x1.25 if used a home- made TX or RX, x1.5 if all home- brew gear	RST QTH MI-QRP Membership number	A- 250Mw or less B- 250Mw to 1w C- 1w to 5w D- Over 5w out	30 days N8COA
European DX SSB (Germany)	0000Z 8 Sep 2359Z 9 Sep	80-10M SSB	1pt/Eur 1pt/OTC OTC: reports of previous QSOs Time: Call: Ser#	WAE Countries worked on each band. x2 on 10/15/20 x3 on 40M x4 on 80M	RST Ser#	Single Op: All bands, Single band Multi-op: Single or Multi-bx All entrants May use Packet Cluster	15 Oct Box 1126 D-74370 Sersheim Germany
ARRL VHF QSO Party	1800Z 8 Sep 0300Z 10 Sep	50MHz to Microwaves	1pt/50 or 144MHz QSO 2pt/220 or 432MHz QSO 3pt/903 or 1296MHz QSO 4pt/above 2304MHz NOTE: do not use 146.52 or repeaters	Grid squares worked on each band	Grid Square	Single Operator: Multi-band, single band, QRP portable (Max 10w out) Rover (single or Multi-op, operating from at least 2 grids) Multi-op: Limited Multi-op (Max 4 bands)	30 days ARRL or e-Mail to SepteMberVHF@arr L.org
North American Sprint SSB	0000Z 9 Sep 0400Z 9 Sep	80-20M SSB	1pt/QSO	Canadian Call areas, US States, other NA countries	Ser# Name QTH	Single op all bands only Entrants May combine their scores to form a "team".	1Mo K7GM
Scandinavia CW	1500Z 15 Sep 1800Z 16 Sep	80-10M CW	1pt/QSO Work JW JX LA OH OJ OX OY OZ SM TF	Scandinavian prefixes worked on each band	RST Ser#	Single Op: All bands, QRP Multi-op single bx	31 Oct - la9hw or e- mail sac@ contesting.com
YLRL Howdy Days (Women hams only)	1400Z 15 Sep 0200Z 16 Sep	80-10M CW, SSB, RTTY	2pt/QSO with YLRL mbr 1pt/QSO with others	None	RST	Single Operator only	30 days K0JFO
Atlantic QSO Party (Canada)	0000Z 16 Sep 2359Z 16 Sep	160-10M CW and SSB	1pt/QSO NB/NF/NS/PEI work everyone; other work only Mar and NF	Maritime counties and Newfoundland federal ridings. Mar and NF stations also count Provs/Terris, US states and DXCC countries once, regardless of band.	RST QTH	Single op High Power: Mixed Mode, CW only, SSB only Single op Low Power: Mixed Mode, CW only, SSB only Multi-op High Power: Mixed Mode, CW only, SSB only Multi-op Low Power: Mixed Mode, CW only, SSB only	30 days LCARC, Box 6552 Stn B Saint John NB E2L 4R9 CANADA
Scandinavia SSB	1500Z 22 Sep 1800Z 23 Sep	80-10M SSB	1pt/QSO Work JW JX LA OH OJ O> OY OZ SM TF	Scandinavian prefixes worked on each band	RST Ser#	Single Op: All bands, QRP Multi-op single bx	31 Oct - la9hw or e- mail sac@ contesting.com
CQ/RTTY Journal WW DX RTTY	0000Z 29 Sep 2359Z 30 Sep	80-10M RTTY	1pt/down country 2pt/other NA countries 3pt/other continents	DXCC + WAE Countries + Canadian Provs, Terrs, Labrador + US States	RST QTH CQ Zone	Single Op: All bands High Power, All Bands Low Power, Assisted, Single Band Multi-op: Single TX High Power, Single TX Low Power, Multi-bx	1 Dec PO Box DX Stow MA, 01775 e- mail K1RY@ contesting.com
Texas QSO Party	1400Z 29 Sep 2000Z 30 Sep (0200-1400 off- time for all)	80-2M CW & SSB	1pt/SSB 2pt/CW 5pt/Mobiles 7pt/Mobiles in CW	Texas counties (254) Texas stations count Texas counties, US States, Canadian Provinces and Territories and DXCC countries	QTH	Single Op (SO), Multi Single (MS), Multi-Multi (MM), QRP-SO, QRP-MS, QRP-MM, CW Only- SO, CW Only-MS, CW Only-MM, Texas Mobile- SO, Texas Mobile-MS and Texas Mobile-MM	1700 Hillview Lane, Spring, TX 77379 or by email to k5vuu@arrl.net
Louisiana QSO Party	0000Z 30 Sep 2400Z 30 Sep	80-2M SSB and CW	2pt/SSB QSO 3pt/CW QSO	Stations outside LA: 64 Louisiana parishes per band Stations in LA: 80 ARRL sections per band	RST QTH	Single op: Mixed Mode, SSB only, CW only, each with QRP(5w Max), Low Power (100w Max) and High power categories Multi-op Mixed Mode: QRP, low and high power	31 Oct PO Box 1871 West Monroe LA 71294 or e-Mail to laqp@tchaMs.org
RSGB 21/28MHz SSB (UK)	0700Z 7 Oct 1900Z 7 Oct	21.2-21.35 28.45-29.1	3pt/QSO Work UK stations only	UK Post Code areas UK stations will send the first two letters of their post code.	RST Ser#	Single op, Single op QRP Multi-op single bx	14 Nov G3UFY
Oceania DX Contest SSB	1000Z 6 Oct 1000Z 7 Oct	80-10M SSB	3pt/10M 2pt/15M 1pt/20M 5pt/40M 10pt/80M work Oceania only	Oceania prefixes on each band Score each band separately, then sum scores from all bands.	RST Ser#	Single op all bands Multi-op all bands SWL	27 Nov Box 6464 Wellington 6030 New Zealand e-mail: octest@ nzart.org.nz
European Autumn Sprint SSB	1500Z 6 Oct 1859Z 6 Oct	80-20M SSB	1pt/QSO	None	your call, other stn's call, Ser#, name	Single operator only	15 days I2UIY
California QSO Party	1600Z 6 Oct 2200Z 7 Oct	160-2M CW & SSB	2pt/SSB 3pt/CW Work California only	California Counties (58)	RST Ser# QTH	Single Op, All bands Multi-op, single bx	15 Nov Box 853 Pine Grove CA 95665
QCWA QSO Party	1800Z 6 Oct 1800Z 7 Oct	160M- UHF+	1pt/SSB QSO 2pt/CW QSO	QCWA Chapter, Canadian Provinces & Terrs, US States, DXCC countries count once on each band. Rules allow for 15 bands: 160M, 80cw, 80ssb, 40cw, 40ssb, 20cw, 20ssb, 15cw, 15ssb, 10cw, 10ssb, 6M, 2M, 135cm, 70cm and beyond. A QSO w/W2MM counts three Multiplier points.	1. RST 2. Year first licensed 3. QCWA Chapter# or Prov/Terr. State or country	QCWA Members, QCWA non-Members Novices	30 days W9HXL
Ibero-America Contest (Spain)	2000Z 6 Oct 2000Z 7 Oct	160-10M SSB	3pt/Ibero-AM 1pt/others	CE CO CP CR CT CX C3 C9 DU EA HC HI HK HP HR KP LA LU OA PY TG TI XE YN YS YV ZP 3C + their DXCC dependencies on each band	RS Ser#	Single op: all bands, QRP Multi-op single bx SWL	30 Nov Concepcion Arena 5 08027 Barcelona
YLRL Anniversary Party CW	1400Z 10 Oct 0200Z 12 Oct	80-10M CW	1pt/QSO on your section 2pt/QSO with others	ARRL Sections, Canadian Provinces and territories, DXCC countries	RST Section	Single Operator only	30 Days K0JFO
Oceania DX Contest CW	1000Z 13 Oct 1000Z 14 Oct	80-10M CW	3pt/10M 2pt/15M 1pt/20M 5pt/40M 10pt/80M work Oceania only	Oceania prefixes on each band Score each band separately, then sum scores from all bands.	RST Ser#	Single op all bands Multi-op all bands SWL	27 Nov Box 6464 Wellington 6030 New Zealand e-mail: octest@ nzart.org.nz
European Autumn Sprint CW	1500Z 13 Oct 1859Z 13 Oct	80-20M CW	1pt/QSO	None	your call, other stn's call, Ser#, name	Single operator only	15 days OK2FD
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z 13 Oct 2200Z 14 Oct 05-13Z Off time	160-10M CW & SSB	1pt/SSB 1.5pt/CW 2pt/160, 80M CW 200pt/QSO with W3YA Work Penn. only	Pennsylvania counties (67) Penn. stations will send a 3-letter county abbrev. x2 if you are QRP	RST QTH	Single op: High power, 100w, QRP Multi-op: Single bx, Multi-bx	15 Nov Box 614 St. College PA 16804 USA
RSGB 21/28MHz CW (UK)	0700Z 21 Oct 1900Z 21 Oct	21-21.075 28-28.075	3pt/QSO Work UK stations only	UK Post Code areas UK stations will send the first two letters of their post code.	RST Ser#	Single op, Single op QRP Multi-op single bx	14 Nov G3UFY

Addresses: CQ - 25 Newbridge Rd., Hicksville NY, 11801 USA  
Bands: The 30, 17 and 12M bands are never used in any contest.

ARRL - 225 Main St, Newington CT, 06111 USA. Callsign - Callbook Address  
Please confirm the dates of these events on the internet at <http://hoMe.soi.no/~janal/ha/haMMMain.html> or <http://www.sk3bg.se/contests/>

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WORLD RADIO, September 2001 59

# Hamfests — September

## ARIZONA

**Hualapai ARC/Dolan Springs ARC**  
Kingman Fallfest 7 a.m. 29 Sep. at Mohave Community College, Kingman, AZ. (I-40 to exit 51, north to Jagerson Ave, East on Jagerson to the college). Free tailgate space. TI: 146.760(-) PL 131.8. For info: Charlie, W6PNM, 757-7553.

## ARKANSAS

**Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest** 7/8 Sep. at Queen Wilhelmina State Park near Mena, AR. (13 miles west of downtown Mena on Hwy 88). TI: 146.79(PL 100). For info: Charlotte Lee, KC5DOR, 415 Cross-trails Rd. De Queen, AR 71832. E-mail: clee48@ipa.net. Phone: 800/264-1196 (day, 870/642-7656 (eves.))

## CALIFORNIA

**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.,**  
Hamfest 7:30 a.m. 22 Sep. at Lewis Adult Education Center (corner of Lewis Rd and Lomas Ave.,) Santa Rosa, CA. Open for vendors at 6:30 a.m. Free adm. Vendors \$10 per space. VE exams 9 a.m. to noon. For info: Rick Reiner, K6ZWB, 707/575-4455. SCRA, P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. Web site: www.cds1.net/scra.

## CONNECTICUT

**Candlewood ARA Hamfest** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. 16 Sep. at Edmond Town Hall, Rte 6 in Newtown, CT. (Exit 10 on I-84). Adm. \$4 (under 12 FREE). Tables #10, tailgate space \$6 (includes 1 adm.). Setup at 7 a.m. TI: 146.67/07 (PL 100). For reservations or info: Ken Weith, KD1DD, 8a Hoyt Rd. Bethel, CT 06801. Phone: 203/743-9181.

## FLORIDA

**Suncoast ARC Pasco County Hamfest**  
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at New Port Richey Recreational Center, 6650 Van Buren Rd., New Port Richey, FL. Adm. \$5 (XYL's & under 12; FREE). Tables \$15/ea. (with power add \$5). Tailgate spaces \$3/ea. TI: 145.35.

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## ILLINOIS

**Peoria ARC Peoria Superfest/ARRL**  
Illinois State Convention 14-16 Sep. at Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL. Open Fri. at 3 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 6 a.m. Adm. \$5/adv. \$7 at the gate (good for entire weekend). Flea market space \$5/ea (plus adm.). Flea market setup at 10 a.m. Fri. and 6 a.m. Sat & Sun. VE exams Sun. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. DXCC card checking, live music Sat. night. TI: 147.075(+). For info: Peoria Superfest, P.O. Box 3508, Peoria, IL 61612-3508. Web page: www.w9uvi.org.

**Chicago FM Club Hamfest** 22/23 Sep. at Lake County Fairgrounds (Rte 45 & 120), Grayslake, IL. Tables \$20 for both days. AC power \$10. VE exams 9 & 11 a.m. both days. Free parking and camping (no hook-ups, AC power \$10). TI: 146.76(-103.7). For info: CFMC, 348 W. Natoma Ave, Addison, IL 60101-3422. Web page: www.chicagofmclub.org.

## INDIANA

**Owen County ARA/Bloomington**  
ARC Hamfest 8 Sep. Spencer, IN. For info: Katie Smith, K9INU, 812/829-2140 or Millard Qualls, K9DIY, 812/332-0074.

## KENTUCKY

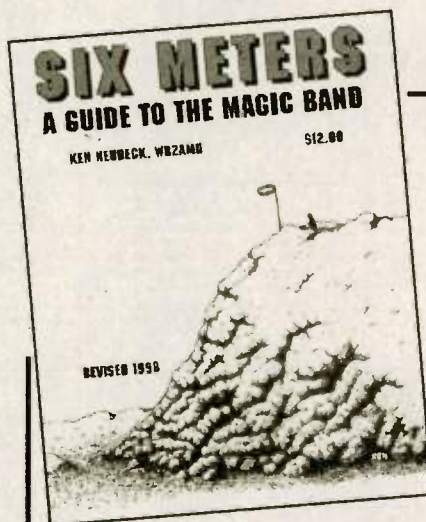
**Greater Louisville Hamfest Association**  
Hamfest/ARRL Kentucky State Convention 8 Sep. at Bullitt County Fairgrounds, (15 mi. south of Louisville on I-65). Adm. \$6/adv, \$7/door. Adv. Tickets with SASE. VE exams (walk-ins welcome). For info or tickets: P.O. Box 34444-N, Louisville, KY 40232-4444. Space info: 812/294-4021, or 812/284-5853. Flea market space: 502/935-7197 or 859/284-9090; fax: 859/284-5296. Web page: <http://mx2.confluentasp.com/~glha/>.

## MASSACHUSETTS

**Mohawk ARC, Inc.** ARRL Hamfest 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. 9 Sep. at Athol/Orange Elks hall, 92 Athol Road (Rte. 2 to exit 16, Rte. 202 North to Jct. Rte. 2A at McDonalds. Left on Rte 2A, Elks 1 mi. on left). Adm \$3, (under 12 \$1). Tail gate space \$20 ea (reservations required). TI: 145.370(PL 136.5)/146.58 simplex. For info or adv registration: John Dould, AE1B, 22 South Athol Rd. Athol, MA 01331-2722.

## MICHIGAN

**Michigan ARA/Lowell ARC/Grand Rapids ARA SuperSwap** 2001 8 a.m. 15 Sep. at Caledonia High School. Adm \$6 (12 and under FREE). Indoor tables \$10. Outdoor space \$5/ea. VE exams. TI 147.26(+) PL 94.8/146.52 simplex. For



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info: Ed, N8UXN, 616/458-9029. Web page: [www.w8dc.org](http://www.w8dc.org).

**Adrian ARC Hamfest/Computer Show** 8 a.m. 16 Sep. at Lenawee County Fairgrounds. Adm. \$5. Tables \$10. Flea market spaces #3. For info: <http://users.aix.cc/w8tqe>.

## NEBRASKA

**Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Hamfest** 8 a.m., 8 Sep. at Sarpy County Fairgrounds (5 minutes south of I-80 & Hwy 50, exits 439 and 440). Adm. \$1. Tables \$7/adv. \$10/door (includes 1 adm.). Pancake breakfast, DXCC, WAS and 5BWAS card checking. TI: 146.940(-). For info: Bill Newman, KØNSA, P.O. Box 24551, Omaha, NE 68124-0551. E-mail: [k0nsa@arrl.net](mailto:k0nsa@arrl.net); web page: [www.aksarbenarc.org](http://www.aksarbenarc.org).

## NEW JERSEY

**Garden State ARA Hamfest/Computerfest** 8 a.m. 16 Sep. at American Red Cross, je (a) **CANCELLED** ve m. \$5/adv. \$6/door. Flea market spaces \$15.

truck spaces \$20. VE exams 11 a.m. DXCC card checking, door prizes. TI: 147.045(-)PL 67/146.52 simplex. Mike, KC2Q, 732/774-1095; [kc2q@arrl.net](mailto:kc2q@arrl.net); or John, KA2PYJ, 732/796-0445; e-mail: [jrmon1@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jrmon1@worldnet.att.net). GSARA Hamfest, P.O. Box 357, Bradley Beach, NJ 07720.

## NEW YORK

**Saratoga R.A.C.E.S. Association Inc., Hamfest** 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. 9 Sep. at Saratoga County Fairgrounds, Ballston Spa, NY. Adm. \$5 (includes parking and one tailgate space). Reserved tables \$5 each — first come, first served. Reservations and pre-pay welcome and encouraged. VE exams, fox hunt. TI: 146.40/170 and 147.84/147.24. For info: Darlene Lake, N2XQG, 314 Loudon Road, Box 84, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Phone: 518/587-2385; e-mail: [lake@capital.net](mailto:lake@capital.net).

**ARA of the Souther Tier Hamfest/Computerfest** 6 a.m. at 29 Sep. at Chemung County Fairgrounds, Horseheads, NY. Adm. \$5/adv. \$6/gate. VE exams at 9 a.m.

For info: john (VE) 607/565-4020; Randy (Dealers/tickets) 607/738-6857. Web page: [www.arast.org](http://www.arast.org).

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Uniontown ARC Gabfest/Hamfest** 8 a.m. 1 Sep. at club grounds located on Old Pittsburgh Rd. (north of intersection of Rte 51 & 119. Free parking and free tailgate space with registration. TI: 147.045(+) or 147.255(+). For info: Carl, WA3HQK or Joyce, KA3CUT Chuprinko, 84 Heaven Hill Rd. Morgantown WV 26508. Phone: 304/594-3779.

## RHODE ISLAND

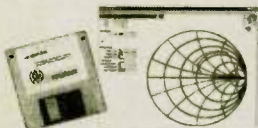
**Rhode Island Amateur FM Repeater Service, Inc. Auction and Flea Market**, 8 a.m. 15 Sep. at VFW Post 6342, Main Street, Forestdale (N. Smithfield), RI. (Forestdale exit off Rte 146 in N. Smithfield, left at end of ramp and 6/10 mi. to the Post). Auction begins at 11 a.m. TI: 146.76. For info: Rick Fairweather, K1KYI, 106 Chaplin St. Pawtucket, RI 02861. E-mail: [k1kyi@arrl.net](mailto:k1kyi@arrl.net). Phone: 401/725/7507 (7-8 p.m. ONLY!).

# The Smith Chart

**Electronic Applications of the Smith Chart**, by Phillip H. Smith This is an updated edition of the original, classic reference book by the legendary Smith Chart inventor himself. This book describes how the Smith Chart is used for designing lumped element and transmission line circuits and includes tutorial material on transmission line theory and behavior, circuit representation on the chart, matching networks, network transformations and broadband matching. It also includes a new chapter with example designs and a description of *winSmith* (see below). **Our Price \$59.00**

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# New Products

## Cutting Edge Enterprises new WorldPack II

Have you been jealous of your friend's WorldPack that he uses to carry his FT-100? Well, the new improved WorldPack II will fit any of the modern mobile radios. So many of us have a radio that we'd love to take out of the car and carry easily and safely on a trip — either on a plane and into a hotel as a carry-on bag, on a road trip with a buddy, or hiking to a mountaintop QRP location. Yes, I mean ANY mobile radio! With the WorldPack II, you can take it with you.

The WorldPack II is a compact, comfortable backpack that holds your radio in the upper compartment. The adjustable interior sling allows for a variety of sizes to fit securely with equal accessibility. The pack is constructed of the same great padded heavy-duty nylon fabric as the original WorldPack. The optional power supply that fits in the zippered lower compartment is more powerful than the old model — now offering 8AH instead of 7. The tie-downs on the exterior of the pack are very well



designed to hold just about anything that you would need to carry. There are now twice as many tie-downs as the original model. Antenna pockets on the left hand side allow you to carry multiple antennas or antenna elements, while the pockets

and tie-downs on the right side allow you to carry a working antenna so you can walk and talk. And then there are some little refinements that really tickle me... or actually don't — the loose end of the shoulder adjustment is now captive, and no longer hangs free to tickle your elbow. Another upgrade is the choice of colors for the lacings that has changed from a wild fluorescent green to a royal blue. Another thoughtful idea is the new wind cover for your microphone. This fuzzy little item slides over your microphone so you don't get that roaring wind sound with your audio signal when out of doors. It's these little extras that always seem to define the designs from the folks at Cutting Edge.

So, whether you've just bought a new mobile rig, or you're thinking of getting some new action out of your old one, the WorldPack II is the way to go.

Suggest retail price of the WorldPack II is \$67.95. The optional power supply kit (sold separately) is \$63.95. For more information or to locate a dealer near you, contact Cutting Edge Enterprises at 800/206-0115; FAX 831/426-0115; e-mail: sales@powerportstore.com or see their web page at www.powerportstore.com.

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## Truly direct-bury RG-213 type coax

The Wireman, Inc. introduces another *Certified Quality* product that satisfies another often requested amateur requirement. CQ113PE is an RG213-type coaxial cable specifically designed to be directly buried

The center conductor, solid polyethylene dielectric and 97% copper braid follow the specification for Mil Spec RG213/U and its predecessor RG8A/U, but CQ113PE then includes a moisture blocking material and adds a tough, UV resistant, abrasion fighting, moisture impermeable, black polyethylene jacket.

The cost of the new coax is close to that of regular RG213/U, making it an ideal choice for a total run from shack to antenna when part of the route needs to be underground. The price a 100 feet is \$0.45/ft, less for greater lengths.

## Flexible RG217-type coax

The Wireman, Inc. introduces a heavy-duty coaxial cable in their *Certified Quality* line that solves the around-the-rotor problem of the full-power station, with or without a jumper.

The product is manufactured to the

MHz	DB/100 ft	Max input power-watts
1-4	~.11	
7.25	.2	
10	.4	6000
14.25	.5	
30	.6	
50	1.0	2000

Loss characteristics are very close to published RG217/U data.

specifications of MIL SPEC RG217/U, with two notable design changes: a stranded center conductor and a tough, UV resistant, black polyethylene jacket.

This cable is ideally suited to crank up tower usage due to the natural lubricity of the jacket, allowing it to slide easily through eyelets and guides, and coil neatly into circular nesting vessels. The overall stiffness precludes conductor damage, but allows easy rotation over many years. The two bare copper shields totaling 98% coverage add high lineal strength and integrity to the cable's projected 20+ year life.

Connectors are available in "N" and now, "UHF" (PL259) type without an adapter.

Contact The Wireman, Inc. for further information at 800-727-WIRE(9473), info@thewireman.com or order on line at www.thewireman.com

# VE Exams

As a service to our readers, *Worldradio* presents a feature listing of those VE exams, times and locations which are sent to us. Please remember that our deadline for publication is three months in advance. For example, if your VE group is scheduling an exam for December, please have the information to us by mid-September. *Worldradio*, 2120 28th St., Sacramento, CA 95818. Please mark the envelope "VE Exams." List the location (City), any information examinees should

have (advance registration, etc.) and the name and telephone number of a person to contact for further information. Examinees should bring their original license (along with a photo copy), two forms of identification (at least one should be a photo), and required fee.

p/r pref=pre-register preferred but w/i OK w/i=walk-in only  
p/r=pre-register only—no w/i w/i pref.=w/i preferred to p/r

Date	City	Contact	Notes	Date	City	Contact	Notes
<b>Alabama</b>				<b>Nevada</b>			
9/18/01	Opelika	Mary, KL7P 334/741-9087	p/r	9/08/01	Las Vegas	Tim, WA6TNW 702/872-5268	p/r pref.
9/21/01	Tuscaloosa	Bridget, KS4YT 205/554-0984	p/r pref.	9/15/01	Minden	George, WW7E 775/265-4278	w/i pref.
<b>Arizona</b>				<b>New Jersey</b>			
9/07901	Tucson	David, K7IOU 520/749-2884	p/r pref	9/08/01	Cranford	Drew Moore, W2OU, 732/885-8460	w/i pref
<b>Arkansas</b>				9/12/01	Ft. Monmouth	Mike, KC2Q 732/774-1095	w/i only
9/08/01	Harrison	David, K5DEL 870/741-8604	p/r pref	9/26/01	Manahawkin	Dave, WA2TVS 609/698-2872	w/i pref
<b>California</b>				<b>New York</b>			
9/08/01	Carisbad	Rusty, AA6OM 760/747-5872	p/r pref.	9/02/01	Yonkers	Emily, AC2V 914/237-5589	w/i
Hotline	Carmichael	Info Hotline: 916/492-6115	w/i	<b>North Carolina</b>			
9/27/01	Colton	Harold, AB6RN 909/825-7136	p/r pref.	tba	Brevard	Harrison, KO4RV 704/877-4757 or 704/883-9096	
9/08/01	Cypress	Harrison, AC6TI 714/457-4170	p/r pref	<b>Ohio</b>			
9/29/01	Escondido	Harry, WA6YOO 760/743-4212	p/r only	9/01/01	Cincinnati	Herb, WA8PBW 513/891-7556	w/i pref
9/10/01	Fremont	Dennis, K6DF 408/255-9000	w/i	9/22/01	Van Wert	Robert, KA8IAF 419/795-5763	p/r pref.
9/15/01	Grass Valley	John Plamer, KK6XJ 530-273-0524	p/r pref.	9/20/01	Youngstown	James, W8JV 330/534-1394	p/r pref.
9/29/01	LaVerne	909/923-1090 - w6ekz@arrl.net	p/r pref	<b>Oregon</b>			
9/08/01	Lancaster	Adrienne, WA6YEO 805/948-1855	p/r pref.	9/15/01	Albany	WB9HZT 541/967-4167	p/r pref
9/15/01	Long Beach	Don, 562/420-9480	p/r pref.	Call!!	Astoria	AA7OA, 503/338-3333	p/r
9/15/01	Redwood City	Al, WB6IMX 408/255-9000	w/i	9/05/01	Beid	Joe, K7SQ 541/385-3152	p/r
9/08/01	San Pedro	Elvin, N6DYZ 310/325-2965	p/r pref.	Tuesdays	Bend	Bill, K7ZM 541/389-6258	p/r only
9/08/01	Santa Barbara	Darryl Widman, 805/969-2326	p/r pref.	9/08/01	Dallas	Robert, W7LOU, 503/623-1141	p/r
9/16/00	Santa Rosa	Hotline - Recording, 707/579-9608	w/i ok	9/12/01	Eugene	Riley, W7EUD 541/345-2407	p/r pref
Hotline	Sebastopol	Recording, 707/579-9608		9/26/01	Florence	Hal, N7HL 541/997-2323	p/r pref.
9/15/01	Stockton	Mark, W6DKI 209/465-7496	w/i	9/22/01	Gresham	Patsy, W7PAT 503/668-4305	w/i only
9/08/01	Sunnyvale	John or Gordon 408/255-9000	w/i	9/01/01	Lincoln City	Carl, K7EWG 541/994-3113	p/r pref.
<b>Colorado</b>				9/08/01	McMinnville	Mike, W7MJ 503/843-4042	p/r pref.
call	All Colorado	Exam recording 303/360-7293		9/12/01	Roseburg	Mel, AB7DC 541/672-5884	p/r pref.
<b>Connecticut</b>				<b>Pennsylvania</b>			
9/18/01	Middletown	Paul, K1PL 860/635-1742	p/r pref.	9/01/01	Erie	Norma, W3CG 814/665-9124	w/i pref.
9/26/01	Newington	Larry, AB7GY 280/983-2163	w/i pref	9/06/01	Philadelphia	Dusty, ND3Q 215/482-0386	p/r pref
9/08/01	Newington	Dan, K3UFG 860/206-3379	w/i	9/17/01	Telford	Paul, N3YSI 215/536-4659	p/r pref
<b>Florida</b>				<b>Rhode Island</b>			
9/13/01	Ft. Myers	Leonard, KC4GOA 941/694-2505	w/i	9/13/01	Providence	Judy, KC1RI 401/231-9156	w/i pref.
9/10/01	Hollywood	Robert, WE4B 954/524-6051	w/i	<b>South Carolina</b>			
call	St. Pete	Mark, NP3R 727/528-0071	w/i pref.	9/19/01	Goose Creek	Robert, KU4OX 843/761-7637	p/r pref
<b>Georgia</b>				<b>Texas</b>			
9/01/01	Ellijay	Sam, K4SWU 706/276-4877	w/i pref	9/08/01	Webster	David Fanelli, kb5pgy@clarc.org	w/i pref.
<b>Idaho</b>				<b>Virginia</b>			
9/08/01	Boise	Rich Dees, W7BOI 208/888-1343	w/i pref.	9/08/01	Alexandria	John, WZ4A 703/971-3905	w/i
9/26/01	Grangeville	Larry, AB7GY 208/983-2163	w/i pref.	<b>Wisconsin</b>			
9/04/01	Lewiston	KB7LTY 509/758-8374		9/15/01	Sheboygan	Art, K9XJ 920/876/2370	p/r pref.
<b>Illinois</b>				<b>Does your club hold VE Exam sessions?</b>			
Anytime!	Burr Ridge	Deni, W9DS 630/986-0061	p/r	<b>List them in Worldradio!</b>			
9/21/01	Elmhurst	Gerald, W9EG 630/628-1336	p/r				
9/17/01	Libertyville	John, W9EM 847/223-3357	p/r pref				
9/08/01	Oak Forest	David, NF9N 708/226-1570	p/r pref				
<b>Kentucky</b>				<b>Maryland</b>			
9/08/01	Ashland	Scotty Thompson - ki4at@aol.com	w/i	9/15/01	Laurel	John, WB3GXW 301/572-5124	p/r pref
<b>Michigan</b>				<b>Illinois</b>			
9/07/01	Grands Rapids	Edward N8UXN 616/458-9029	w/i	9/08/01	Marquette	Richard, N8GBA 906/249-3337	p/r pref.
9/08/01	Marquette	Richard, N8GBA 906/249-3337	p/r pref.				

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Rick McCusker, WF6O

One day at the beginning of June, I was sitting at my desk, minding my own business, when Armond Noble, N6WR, our publisher came into the office with big smile on his face. He placed this letter on my desk. "Isn't that nice?" he said. Yes, as a matter of fact, it is nice.

Even though we sometimes respectfully disagree with the ARRL, we realize the fact that the League is the one organized voice for Amateur Radio: We try to cooperate fully with the ARRL, and that's why you find news from the ARRL Letter and Bulletins in the pages of *Worldradio*.

This relationship has been going on for over 30 years, and we sincerely hope to continue it for another 30 years — or longer!

We, the staff at *Worldradio*, thank David Sumner, K1ZZ, Executive Vice President of the ARRL for his kind letter on behalf of the ARRL. It's been a lot of fun, and we plan on having even more fun and a good working relationship with the League. Besides, with a classy guy like David sending out the letter, how can we do anything but continue the relationship?



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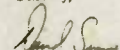
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Dear Armond:

Congratulations to you and the entire *Worldradio* staff on completing 30 years of publishing in service to the Amateur Radio community. Each month for three decades, *Worldradio* has reminded us of what's best about Amateur Radio: service, advancement, camaraderie, and tradition. Best wishes for the next 30!

73.

Sincerely,

  
David Sumner, K1ZZ  
Executive Vice President

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