



# KEY KLIX

Amateur Radio Club of Savannah

March 2007

Volume 3

Issue 3

The next meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of Savannah will be held, Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 7:30pm, at Memorial Health University Center, in the Hoskins Building Classroom "5." The Hoskins building is on the South Side of the hospital near Parking Garage "C." Enter the Hoskins Building on the side that faces the Parking Garage "C." There will be a short program following the business portion of the meeting.

## FEBRUARY ARCS MEETING

The February ARCS meeting was held at Armstrong Atlantic State University's Science Center. A brief business meeting was conducted, then a feature movie titled, "*Empire of the Air, The Men Who Made Radio*," was shown. 18 people were in attendance. (Thanks KA4KOE for arranging the meeting place and movie presentation.)

**For Sale:** Alinco DM-1350 35A power supply \$75  
Realistic HTX-100 10 meter transceiver w/antenna \$65  
MFJ493 Memory Keyer w/manual \$75  
Contact Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY  
(912) 238-4676

## STRAYS

Philip, KA4KOE, and his son Jordan recently went camping on the Yorktown in SC, with Jordan's Cub Scout troop. This poster was in the mess hall of the ship.

## BUY, SWAP, OR SELL

**Wanted:** Rohn 25, 50, or 60-foot tower.  
Contact Doug Rowland, Phone:  
912-826-7199 Email:  
[jdrowland@windstream.net](mailto:jdrowland@windstream.net)

**For Sale:** Kenwood TS-520 with Desk and Hand Mic, I also have operating and repair manuals. Asking price is \$200  
Phone: 912-355-0049 Email:  
[cooley3892@bellsouth.net](mailto:cooley3892@bellsouth.net) TNX, Pete Cooley, K4JAC



# MONITORING THE MILITARY, PART 3: OPERATING AREAS AND RANGES

--Mac McCormick, KF4LMT [kf4lmt@comcast.net](mailto:kf4lmt@comcast.net)

Some of the destinations for military aircraft while they are on air traffic control frequencies are Military Operating Areas (MOAs), Special Use Areas (SUAs) and Ranges. There are several MOAs and Ranges in the Savannah area and a group of SUAs off of the Georgia coast. Basically, these areas are where the flight crews and aircraft conduct training operations for air-to-air combat and air-to-ground combat.

## **SEALORD and the Offshore SUAs...**

SEALORD is the radio call sign for the U. S. Navy Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility (FACSFAC) at NAS Jacksonville, FL. SEALORD controls the SUAs off of the east coast of GA, FL, and SC. These SUAs are made up of a group of air-to-air, air-to-surface, surface and subsurface ranges. While the surface activity is usually well out of VHF/UHF range, the aerial activity is for the most part well within range for listeners in Savannah. Among the aircraft using the airspace are F/A-18 Hornets, F-16 Falcons, F-15 Eagles, P-3 Orions, S-3 Vikings, E-8 JSTARS, and E-3 AWACS.

SEALORD uses a collection of primary, secondary, and discrete frequencies to control their airspace. Aircraft checking in and out of the airspace with SEALORD use the primary and secondary frequencies. Once they are checked into, or “established” in the airspace, they will be switched to a discrete, or “working” frequency for their training operations. Some of the more frequently used SEALORD frequencies are:

284.500	UHF Primary North Fixed Wing Frequency
313.700	UHF Secondary North Fixed Wing Frequency
120.950	VHF Primary North
267.500	UHF Primary South Fixed Wing Frequency
133.950	VHF Primary South
349.800	Discrete
376.900	Discrete
385.300	Discrete
301.000	TACTS Range Discrete
350.000	TACTS Range Discrete

*Note: The TACTS Ranges are instrumented air-to-air combat ranges.*

Air Traffic Control frequencies that are used to transition to and from the SUAs are 120.400/380.025 and 125.300/387.100 with Savannah Approach and Departure as well as 282.200, 277.400 and 363.200 with Jacksonville Center.

### **Fort Stewart Ranges...**

MARNE RADIO controls the airspace over and around Fort Stewart. Aircraft entering or leaving Fort Stewart's airspace check in and out with MARNE RADIO. Most of the Fort Stewart ranges are used for surface-to-surface activity, but there is air-to-ground activity from the helicopters at Hunter AAF and fixed wing attack aircraft. Transports such as C-130s and C-17s also practice airdrops at Fort Stewart's drop zones. If they will be using a range, they can be switched to a range control frequency. If the aircraft is doing paradrops of personnel or cargo, they may be switched to a drop zone frequency. Most helicopter activity quickly becomes out of range for listeners in Savannah due to the low altitude the helicopters fly at. Fixed wing aviation occasionally uses the airspace, however, and they can usually be heard in Savannah.

127.350	Marne Radio
279.625	Marne Radio
48.500	Range Control
234.250	Range Control
280.800	Range Control
238.250	Drop Zone

Air Traffic Control frequencies that are used to transition to and from the Fort Stewart Ranges and Marne Radio are 120.400/380.025 with Savannah Approach and Departure as well as 282.200 and 277.400 with Jacksonville Center.

### **The Coastal MOAs and Townsend Range...**

The Coastal MOAs are comprised of airspace above and around Townsend Range near Townsend, GA in McIntosh County. The Coastal MOAs and Townsend Range are mostly used for air-to-ground training, but they can also be used for air-to-air training. Weapons can only be dropped or fired in the range airspace. Operated by the Georgia Air National Guard, aircraft from all of the military services and from all over the southeast and other parts of the country use Townsend Range.

119.225	Range Control
228.400	Range Control
252.900	Range Control

Air Traffic Control frequencies that are used to transition to and from the Coastal MOAs and Townsend Range are 120.400/380.025 with Savannah Approach and Departure as well as 282.200 and 277.400 with Jacksonville Center.

Next month, we will discuss call signs and frequencies used by some of the squadrons in the Savannah area. By combining the air traffic control or range traffic with interplane communications, you can get a more complete idea of what the aircraft are doing and have a more enjoyable monitoring experience.

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## NO MORE CODE

**ARRL - NEWINGTON, CT, Feb 28, 2007** -- The avalanche of Amateur Radio license and license upgrade applications prompted by the FCC's elimination of Morse code as a licensing requirement is well under way with no end in sight. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, reports that paperwork from over 450 Amateur Radio exam sessions held since the new rules went into effect February 23 has arrived so far. The ARRL VEC, which typically receives paperwork from about 70 sessions each day, has had to add personnel and schedule extended hours to keep up with the workload.

New Amateur Radio rules are driving the demand for new licenses and upgrades. Effective February 23, the FCC no longer requires Amateur Radio applicants to pass a Morse code test to earn operating privileges below 30 MHz. As of the same date, Technician licensees who never passed a Morse code test gained new CW privileges on 80, 40 and 15 meters and new CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on 10 meters. Since the Technician ticket has not required a Morse code test since 1991, most current Technician license holders will face a learning curve to take advantage of their new CW privileges. As of February 25, there were approximately 324,200 Technician licensees in the US -- more than any other license class.

Technicians may begin using their new privileges without having to apply for them. No other license class acquired new privileges as a result of the new rules that went into effect February 23, however. All license upgraders must first apply at an examination session, pay any application fee and either successfully pass the appropriate written test or present valid exam element credit.

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## STRAYS

Congratulations to Kurt Hoffman, N4CVF, ARCS "Amateur of the Year"!!!!

Sheri Neidlinger appears on the "*New Opportunities for Every Ham*" page after page 48 of the March QST. It's a small picture, but you'll see Sheri, KG4KTW, modeling a PRC-2000 man, er, woman-pack, military radio.

If you've got 22 minutes and broadband – here is the neatest collection of late 50's era ham radio operation I've ever seen. It is also a great PSA video for its time:

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=2943570522939177086&hl=en>

Charlotte Hamfest March 10-11

It's time to pay your annual ARCS membership dues. "Individual Membership" is \$30.00 and "Family Membership" is \$40.00. Please renew your membership before March 30<sup>th</sup>. Please help support the Amateur Radio Club of Savannah.



## AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF SAVANNAH



### **ARCS Elected Officers for 2007:**

President: Doug Rowland, KF4EFP, (912) 826-7199, [jdrowland@windstream.net](mailto:jdrowland@windstream.net)

Vice President: Mac McCormick, KF4LMT, [kf4lmt@comcast.net](mailto:kf4lmt@comcast.net)

Secretary: Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY, (912) 238-4676, [andy@g-net.net](mailto:andy@g-net.net)

Treasurer: David Delamater, K4DJD, (912) 412-4109, [k4djd@comcast.net](mailto:k4djd@comcast.net)

Activities Manager: Philip Neidlinger, KA4KOE, [ka4koe@comcast.net](mailto:ka4koe@comcast.net)

Trustee: Kurt Hoffman, N4CVF, (912) 356-8581, [n4cvf@arrl.net](mailto:n4cvf@arrl.net)

### **Appointed Positions for 2007:**

ARCS Webmaster: Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY, (912) 238-4676, [andy@g-net.net](mailto:andy@g-net.net)

Key Klix Newsletter Editor: Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY, [andy@g-net.net](mailto:andy@g-net.net)

The Amateur Radio Club of Savannah, was founded in 1938, and is a non-profit 501(c)(3)(a) organization dedicated to:

- (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
- (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
- (c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.