



DeFOREST



SEPTEMBER 2004

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The President's Shack

By KE8FK - Edward Lock

Well I missed the September meeting. Hope everything went well as usual. I was out roaming the Oregon Mountains, looking for Elk. I shot more than the other guys mainly because I was using a camera. Hi Hi. It was really beautiful in the mountains this time of year.

I don't know what is going on for the Club yet. I will probably check it out at the October meeting or the Thursday night net. I will catch everyone at the meeting or the net.

73 Ed KE8FK

Secretary's Minutes

The September 14 meeting was conducted by VP Lyle Lambert, KC8DDY.

In attendance were Lyle and Karen Lambert, Richard Newbauer, Kim and Jerry Paquette, Eldon O'Cull, Kelly Boone, Debbie Lorenz, Dick Sauer and Barry Storer.

Lyle read the minutes Ed provided pertaining to the August meeting.

Lyle said there are still 10 monitors for sale.

Net Controls: September - Kim, October Lyle Lambert, November Ridney Lorenz, December Barbara Lock.

The walk-a-thon on August 21st went well, with help from KC8HFX Bob, N8VGQ Mary, and N8HIA Barbara.

Repeater report, Jerry - nothing to report.

ARES - Kim - contest next meeting for emergency preparedness kits. There will be prizes for top two kits.

Kim said we would be set up at the Adams County EMA Saturday morning, October 2 for the Simulated Emergency Test exercise. If everything goes right we will have HF and VHF (2-meter) stations setup. She hopes members will join us at the EMA from 9 Am to Noon.

SILENT KEY

Garry L. Howard, N8SVW a member of the DForestARC several years ago died following a motorcycle accident. Garry was the 1st Gant ARC President, and a presidential exchange member of the DeForest club.

73, Jerry WB8IOW,
Interim Secretary remainder of '04

Next Meeting October 12, 2004

ABCAP Senior Nutrition Center, across from the front steps of the courthouse in West Union, Ohio

7:00 PM

Birthdays & Special Events

October

- 2 KB8VBJ Sheila Starcher
- 4 W8UJM Al Norris
- 6 Angela Larter
- 12 DeForest ARC meeting
- 21 KC8OIZ Berlin Setty
- 25 N8SND Bill Mangus
- 31 KC8VIJ Judy Setty

November

- 2 KC8JXE Marlene Potts
- 7 WA8BMY George Kreps, Jr.

SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST (SET) DRILL
October 2nd at 9:00 a.m.

In conjunction with the ARRL's Simulated Emergency Test (SET), the DeForest Arc will participate in the Adams County segment of the 2004 SET on Saturday, October 2nd from 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m. Last year, Adams County met 2 of the 3 objectives set for SET and this year, I expect will be even better.

SET weekend enables licensed amateurs to test our communications skills as we respond

to an imaginary scenario doing what we do best - relaying information accurately and efficiently. This year, I hope to have more message traffic generated. Those of you who were at the September meeting received a radiogram form. I hope you will use that form to generate a piece of formal message traffic during the drill.

73, Kim N8YWXX
Adams County EC

EMERGENCY KIT CONTEST

During the October meeting of the DeForest ARC, judging will take place for the grab and go emergency kit contest. Following the SET drill, this will be a good opportunity to winterize your grab and go kit and perhaps, win a prize! Bring your kit to the next meeting. See you there!

---Kim N8YWXX

FCC POISED TO ACT ON BPL REPORT AND ORDER IN MID-OCTOBER

The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) will present a draft broadband over power line (BPL) Report and Order to the full Commission when it meets October 14, the ARRL has learned. More than 6100 comments have been filed on the topic since the FCC released its initial Notice of Inquiry in the proceeding, ET Docket 03-

104, in April 2003 and a subsequent Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket 04-37, in February of this year. The ARRL so far on this round has taken its concerns regarding Amateur Radio and BPL to three of the Commission's five members. In a meeting this week with FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein, an ARRL delegation again asserted that the FCC is pushing the proceeding to a predetermined conclusion with little regard for technical issues.

"Because the FCC has been unwilling to release for public review the results of its own tests and observations of BPL systems, the ARRL has no confidence that the draft Report and Order will be based on sound engineering and believes the rush to adoption is unwarranted and premature," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said in a follow-up letter to Adelstein. The letter reiterated the League's key points that, it said, "represent the minimum protection" that should be incorporated into the BPL Report and Order prior to Commission adoption.

"Without adequate safeguards, the deployment of BPL systems will result in the pollution and degradation of the unique natural resource of the high-frequency radio spectrum," Sumner said.

The League argued that the R&O include a reduction in the radiated emission limit. The ARRL wants the limit set 30 dB below current Part 15 requirements, which, it says, were established with narrowband point-source radiators in mind. "The record in this proceeding clearly establishes that BPL is not a point-source radiator," the ARRL's letter asserted.

The ARRL pointed out that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has concluded that at the current Part 15 limit, interference is "likely" to receivers in land vehicles 75 meters from BPL-connected power lines and to fixed stations 460 meters from such power lines.

"Given the number of amateur stations and the fact that they almost invariably are located near power lines, the areas of potential interference at the existing Part 15 limit are clearly too large to permit case-by-case resolution of interference issues," Sumner said. "Based on experience with the very limited test deployments of BPL systems to date, notably in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Southern Wake County, North Carolina, and Cottonwood, Arizona," the ARRL told Adelstein, "widespread BPL deployment at the existing Part 15 radiated emission limit will result in an unmanageable incidence of interference."

The only way to reduce these areas of potential interference is to reduce the radiated emission limit, the ARRL maintained. Mandatory "notching" of the amateur bands by 30 dB would reduce the probability of interference to amateur stations sufficiently that the remaining interference cases might be resolved on a case-by-case basis. "However," the League added, "such notching would not solve the problem for other radio services."

The ARRL contingent, which included Sumner, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, decried the FCC's lack of response to issues Sumner raised two months ago regarding a North Carolina Amateur Radio interference complaint. The ARRL representatives carried copies of correspondence questioning a July OET report that essentially gave the Progress Energy Corp BPL field trial a clean bill of health despite continued interference on amateur frequencies.

The League delegation suggested to Adelstein that the OET has swept the North Carolina BPL interference case under the rug and has attempted to discount interference issues in general while overstating the FCC's ability to address them.

Other points the ARRL has stressed in its meetings with Commission members include:

- * consider including the NTIA's recommendations to standardize measurement procedures and to require that Access BPL systems be certified, not merely verified.

- * requiring independent confirmation of rules compliance before a BPL system is placed in operation.

- * the need for advance public notification of BPL system locations and characteristics, something not included in the NPRM

- * performance standards for interference mitigation that would require that interference be terminated immediately upon notification to the operator; and meaningful penalties for non-compliance, including fines.

- * require BPL marketers to "give clear notice to potential customers that licensed radio services have priority and that the delivery of broadband service via BPL cannot be guaranteed."

In addition to Adelstein, ARRL representatives have met so far with Commissioners Kevin J. Martin, and Michael J. Copps. The League hopes to meet with the principal advisors to Chairman Michael K. Powell and Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy before the October 7 cutoff for ex

parte communications in the proceeding.

* Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course registration: Registration for the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level III on-line course (EC-003) remains open through the September 25-26 weekend or until all available seats have been filled. Seniors (age 55 and older) are strongly encouraged to participate. Class begins Friday, October 8. Thanks to our grant sponsors--the Corporation for National and Community Service and the United Technologies Corporation--the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be reimbursed after successful completion of the course. During this registration period, seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <http://www.arrl.org/cce>. For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, dmiller@arrl.org <<mailto:dmiller@arrl.org>>; 860-594-0340.

Thanks for previous 2 articles to ARRL Newsletter, published weekly

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