
DeFOREST

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - K8GE

PO Box 73 - West Union, OH 45693-0073

SERVING SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO SINCE 1974

JUNE 2001

EDITOR: WB8IOW - Jerry S. Paquette

<http://www.qsl.net/k8ge>

The June 12th picnic was well attended by members and guests. Since there wasn't a meeting, there aren't any minutes to publish. See you at the July 10th meeting.

**NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY – July 10**

7:00 PM

**ABCAP Senior Nutrition Center
West Union, Ohio,
across the street from the
Adams County Courthouse**

From the Ohio Section Journal, Ron Griffin, N8AEH, Findlay, editor

From Nobody to "The Man" in Four Fruitful Years

By Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Ohio Section Manager

Before 1997, he was in the FCC's version of the Witness Protection Program. The only letters he wrote were to other government bureaucrats and outside of that office, only one ham in ten thousand had ever heard of him.

Fast-forward now four years later at the 2001 Dayton Hamvention where he conducted one of the best

attended Forums. Every ten minutes his remarks were interrupted by applause of hams appreciating his work. He is so well known now in the ham community, his last name is hardly spoken because no one needs to use it.

For us "The Man" is simply called "Riley". Letters he writes now tend to shake up the amateur radio spectrum. At one time, BR or Before Riley, the FCC was considered by most as some ineffective, nonsense agency that ONCE WAS HAM FRIENDLY. But since 1997, or in the era of Riley, the FCC is not only respected but, in some circles, feared. Now when Riley speaks, people listen - very carefully.

At the Hamvention Forum, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, and his FCC boss, Bill Cross, W3TN, explained the new direction we all need to take to enforce FCC rules and keep our frequencies clear of junk. It would be a waste of space to recap the last four years of Riley's work. Those hams who do not know this have just returned from a four year hiatus on the planet, Uranus. But the focus in that work is about to change. The old concentration was on malicious interference and rules violation. That will continue but a

new spotlight, Riley told us, will be about stupidity on the frequencies - a tougher foe of spectrum peace and more difficult to clear up. But, as he explained, we just don't want our bands to host short-wave radio's version of the Jerry Springer Show. Even Jerry Springer fans applauded.

He was referring to radio rage or QSOs that are nothing more than heated arguments. Also a look at those hams who do not know the accepted band plan of the frequency they are using. Band plans aren't mandatory, he reminded us, but using standardized accepted practice helps everyone. Radio rage isn't illegal, just stupid and unpleasant. Making bands more pleasant to use is just as important as keeping them free of illegal activity, he suggested.

And we will listen and work with him. Why? One reason is that Riley has accomplished something only accomplished one other time in the almost 100 years of amateur radio. This hobby has its stars. King Hussein, JY1(sk); Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA(sk); Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD; Ronnie Milsap, WB4KGC; Joe Walsh, WB6ACU; and the like. This is a list of accom-

plished people in other fields who also held amateur radio licenses.

But only Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, who founded the ARRL, and Riley have, in these past 100 years, achieved this level of fame on ham radio activities alone.

DeForest A.R.C. Birthdays & SPECIAL EVENTS

07-01 WA8YIQ Earl Paquette
07-01 KB8QOZ Stephanie Groves
07-09 KB8VLF JD Rosselot
07-09 Clay Payne
07-10 **DeForest meeting 7:00 PM**
07-12 KB8VBH Deanna Rosselot
07-15 KB8PVY Gerald Silman
07-16 KB8QMV Karen Groves
07-21 AA8VV Heber Clark
07-23 KA8EKC Richard Newbauer
07-31 KC8CXO Ray Music
08-01 KD4LJM Sandy Drake
08-08 KB8QNS Ethel King
08-10 KB8QNP Richard Stultz
08-11 W8YGW Gordon Neal
08-11 GMCARA TEST SESSION
9:30 AM
08-14 **DeForest meeting 7:00 PM**
08-15 KC8PWP Eddie Sowards
08-18 KC8LUH Jayne Lambert
08-21 WD8JCD Don Silcott
08-24 AA8IQ Betty Merrill
08-29 N8VGQ Mary Kempfues

AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITES

K8YMI - Bob Halley

AO-40 experimental transponder operation temporarily has been stopped due to the needed changes in the spacecraft attitude prior to arcjet firing. The antenna "squint" angle is more than 30 degrees away from the direct path to earth and currently not useful for trans-

ponder operation. The S-Band station had been operating since early May and some excellent DX contacts were reported with high quality signals through the satellite.

Voice contacts have been made with the International Space Station (ISS) both through some of the school contacts and also in spare-time ham radio operation by the 'nauts. To operate, use these frequencies:

Worldwide packet uplink
145.990 mhz

Region 1 voice uplink
145.200 mhz

Region 2/3 voice uplink
145.490 mhz

Worldwide downlink
145.800 mhz

Call signs being used include NA1SS for the Americans ROISS for the Russian Ham and DLOISS as a German Callsign.

Listen carefully for the packet invitation before you transmit. Listen for voice contacts and respond as you would in a normal QSO. QSL route for American stations working NA1SS is;

Margie Bourgoin KB1DCO
Attn: ARISS Expedition -1
(or 2) QSL
ARRL, 225 Main Street
Newington, Connecticut 06111.

Space tourist Dennis Tito and two Russian Cosmonauts landed safely back on earth ending his historic eight-day holiday in space aboard the ISS. If you haven't heard, he paid 20 Million dollars for the trip. He has since expressed the hope that other would-be space trippers

will get opportunities to do the same.

So you think that it takes expensive equipment to operate on the satellites! Bruce Paige, KK5DO, AMSAT Awards Manager reported that KD5FBA has made over 1000 satellite contacts on AO-27 or UO-14 with nothing more than an HT and an HT-mounted omni-directional whip antenna. In both cases, the uplink is on 2 Meters and the downlink is on 70 cm. Both satellites operate only on FM so check your tracking program and listen for your opportunity.

At the booth at the Dayton Ham-Venture, AMSAT offered some lucky Ham a wonderful prize of a complete Mode-S and Mode-L system for use on AO-40. The total prize included a Mode-S downconverter (2400 MHz) made by SSB Electronics, a Mode-L transverter/amplifier (1269 mhz) made by Down East Microwave, a 1269 mhz Helix antenna built by Directive systems and a Phillips-Tech dish antenna with a CalAmp feed for 2403 mhz. To use this equipment, the winner must have the appropriate SSB/CW transceivers to serve as the exciter/receiver. Many of you know that I was the LUCKY Ham who won the prize and I'm still getting adjusted to the idea. I have been using the needed transceivers on other satellites so hopefully, I will have the AO-40 station operating before the first of July. I don't know the details of how these gifts were financed but believe that the equipment makers donated it at cost or perhaps less. This is another reason for us to support the companies that make the equipment for our great hobby!

At the Friday night AMSAT banquet during the HamVention, Gerry Schmitt, KK5YY, presented a talk and slide show of his adventures in Alaska as he reported on the Iditerod Dog Sled race this past spring. The race covers about 1100 miles beginning near Wasilla (north of Anchorage) and ending at Nome. Gerry is well known for his parking lot demonstrations of AO-27, using his Yaesu HT and his handheld Arrow antenna. Perhaps some of you saw him at Dayton the last two years. It was an excellent presentation.

Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, a very active AMSAT member was presented the Special Achievement Award at the Saturday night HamVention banquet for his leadership role in the Amateur Radio Stations on board the International Space Station. This is quite an honor to be chosen for this annual award. Frank is the leader of the International team that made Ham radio on ISS possible. Prior to this, Frank did much work with NASA, AMSAT and SAREX, the program that arranged school children contacts with Shuttle Astronauts via Ham radio. Congratulations Frank and thanks!

-73- K8YMI

The following is courtesy of:

The ARRL Letter
Vol. 20, No. 25
June 22, 2001

AMATEUR MORSE TESTING CHANGES EFFECTIVE JULY 1

New Morse code exam standards go into effect Sunday, July 1, for all Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. The new standards call for Farnsworth character speed in the 13-to-

15 WPM range and the end of multiple-choice questions for routine Morse code exams. The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators voted last July to set up the revised standards for the administration of Morse code examinations in the US after amateur restructuring established 5 WPM as the sole Amateur Radio Morse code requirement. ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, points out the required change to the Farnsworth protocol replaces the 18-WPM character speed ARRL VEC has used since 1989. "Standard 5 WPM messages with 5 WPM characters are available as an accommodation," he said. "Standard (non-Farnsworth) speed messages are available upon special request from the ARRL VEC for ARRL VE teams." In addition, the Morse exam audio frequency range should be between 700 and 1000 Hz for routine exams.

Consistent with the revised standards, Jahnke said, ARRL VEC has set 15-WPM characters as its Farnsworth setting and 750 Hz as its audio-frequency standard.

Code practice transmissions from Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will reflect the new Farnsworth standard. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, says transmissions using the new protocol will begin Monday, July 2. "Any of our code transmissions at speeds below 18 WPM will drop from 18 WPM to 15 WPM character speed," he said. "We will maintain the standard method at speeds above 18 WPM--20 WPM at 20, 25 WPM at 25, etc." Carcia said the W1AW Web code practice files <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/morse.html> also will be changed to mirror the W1AW transmission protocol.

ARRL's Your Introduction to Morse Code cassette tapes and audio CDs also have adopted the new standards.

The new Morse examination standards also affect test administration. After July 1, Morse examinees will have to supply fill-in-the-blank answers for the 10-question Element 1 quiz. Multiple-choice type examinations no longer will be acceptable. Under the new testing regime, Morse code examinees must either correctly answer seven of the ten fill-in-the-blank questions or correctly copy 25 consecutive characters.

GM creates Web link to aid mobile installations:

In response to a request from ARRL, the General Motors Engineering Center has created a Web link to its official guidelines for installing radio transmitters in vehicles. The Radio Telephone / Mobile Radio Installation Guidelines page is

<http://service.gm.com/techlineinfo/radio.html>.

Installation guidelines for Chrysler and Ford are reprinted, with permission, in the ARRL RFI Book, <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/6834>.

ARRL offers additional information about automotive RFI on its Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/rficar.html>.

The DeForest PDF version of the newsletter is now in PDF 4.0. You should see some improvements in the future PDF editions of the newsletter.