



TARC News



A Publication of Thibodaux Amateur Radio Club

January 2009

2008 OFFICERS

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W5YL	Don Bardwell	WA5PRI

CLUB EVENTS FOR January / February 2009

- January 5 Meeting FMC Thibodaux
- January 12 net meeting
- January 19 Social meeting Piccadilly
- January 12 net meeting
- February 2 Meeting FMC Thibodaux
- February 9 net meeting
- February 14 Louisiana QSO Party
- February 16 Social meeting Piccadilly
- February 23 net meeting

From the Shack of the President

Ready or not 2009 is here! 2008 is history! Did you get all the things done in 2008 that you planned for a year ago? If you are like me you are looking like a deer caught in the headlights and wonder where the year went. Do you remember when it seem to take ages for the Christmas holidays to come? As we get older it's Christmas is here already. I have been reminded that there are still 365 days in a year. We have the same number of days in each year as our parents and grandparents did. So what are we going to make of the year 2009?

On the club note February 14th is the Louisiana QSO party beginning at 9:00 am CST and ending at 9:00 pm CST. Come join the party and get on the air. Hopefully we will have some sunspots that week so propagation will be better. Go to <http://www.qsl.net/kd5wdy/LAQSO> for more information.

June 27 and 28 will be the ARRL field day. The club needs your help as it participates in this annual event. There will more coming so watch the newsletter for more information.

John, AD5YP

NET MEETINGS

*Don't forget the net on 147.390
every 2nd, 4th, and 5th Monday nights
of the month at 7:00 PM.*

Your participation makes for a successful net

All I Want for Christmas Is....

When I was a kid, we had an album (remember records on vinyl?) that had a bunch of Christmas songs for kids. The song I remember most goes:

All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth,
My two front teeth, my two front teeth.

Gee, if I could only have my two front teeth,
Then I could wish you Merry Chrith-math (sang with a lisp).

Seeing as how I've had my two front teeth for nearly 50 years now, and I pretty much have everything I want, I got to thinking about what I want for ham radio for Christmas this year. Here's what I've come up with so far. In no particular order, I want:

MORE SUNSPOTS!

the median age for ham radio operators to actually decrease this year. This means not only recruiting kids, but also younger adults.

the pessimists who are continually talking down ham radio to find new joy in the hobby and begin working to make it great.

the FCC to appoint someone as effective as Riley

Hollingsworth to take over as the enforcer of the amateur radio service regulations.

the FCC to pay a little more attention to amateur radio regulations and not treat them as an afterthought.

the silliness on 75m phone and 14.275 MHz to go QRT.

the ARRL to work harder on making itself truly the "national association for amateur radio" and on increasing the percentage of licensed hams that are ARRL members.

to be able to brag about all of ham radio's "purposes," not only providing emergency and public service communications. According to Part 97, these are:

- * advancing the state of the radio art;
- * improving our technical and operating skills;
- * expanding the number of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts; and
- * enhancing international goodwill.

ham radio clubs to grow and thrive even in these tough economic times.

When I asked this question on Twitter, I got a couple of answers that were versions of a couple of wishes above, but I also got a few more:

WORMT wants "all of us to get on the air more and act as good ambassadors for the hobby," and

NT7S wants the hearts of ham grinchers to grow a couple of sizes

N!WBV wants redesigns for most ham radio websites.

I pretty much agree with all three. Happy New Year!

When not waiting for Santa to decided if he's been naughty or nice, Dan, KB6NU, teaches ham classes and blogs about ham radio (www.kb6nu.com)

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:

Jan 1-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, All US call areas. Straight Key Century Club, K3Y. Celebrating 3 years of steady growth, to over 4,600 members on CW. 14.050 10.120 7.055 3.550. QSL. Dan Rhodes, KA3CTQ, 5408 Chillingham Pl, Frederick, MD 21703. www.skccgroup.com

Jan 3, 1500Z-2000Z, Clinton, IA. Clinton Amateur Radio Club, WØCS. Eagle Watch at Mississippi River Lock/Dam 13. 14.250 7.250. QSL. WØCS, PO Box 1501, Clinton, IA

52733-1501. Include SASE #10 Bus Env for QSL and brochure. WØCS@arrl.net

Jan 6, 1500Z-2359Z, Truth or Consequences, NM. Delsa Amateur Radio Club, K5GTG. New Mexico's 96th Birthday. 3.866 7.255 7.040. Certificate. Robert B. Deal, HC-32 Box 8125, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901.

Jan 10-Jan 11, 1600Z-0100Z, Clovis, NM. Eastern New Mexico Amateur Radio Club, KA5B. 100 years of railroading in Clovis, New Mexico. 14.265 7.185. Certificate. Roy Creiglow, 208 Merrill Dr, Clovis, NM 88101. *From the Clovis Depot Train Museum.* www.ka5b.org

Jan 17, 1500Z-2300Z, El Paso, TX. Sun City Amateur Radio Club, K5WPH. 50 Year On-The-Air Special Event. 14.265 21.310 28.435. QSL. Sun City ARC, 3709 Wickham Ave, El Paso, TX 79904. *Local Chili Party a 3 PM for those that can visit the clubhouse.* k5wph.org

Jan 20, 1400Z-2200Z, Washington, DC. OMIK Amateur Radio Association, K0MIK. To commemorate the inauguration of Barack Obama, 44th President of the United States. 14.295 7.265. QSL. Arthur Moody, W8UTC, 206 Hemlock Dr, Elyria, OH 44035. *Operation will be from 9-11 AM EST and 1-5 PM EST; no operation during the ceremony.* cwashington@charter.net or www.omikradio.org

Jan 24-Jan 25, 1400Z-2000Z, Wilsona Gardens, CA. BioRem RAC Edwards AFB North Base, AL7LS. Release date for movie Hot Rods to Hell 27 Jan 1967. 7.243 3.952 PKT 14.105 7.105. QSL. Bruce Rossi, 2127 Sierra Stone Ln, Las Vegas, NV 89119. www.geocities.com/hrthspeialevent09

Jan 24-Jan 25, 2000Z-2000Z, Eureka, CA. Humboldt Amateur Radio Club, KG6FWT. Allied Victory at Battle of the Ardennes (The Bulge). 14.280 7.290 3.955 3.530. QSL. Jim Falls, HARC, 2605 R St, Eureka, CA 95501-3135. *From the USS LCI(L)-1091. TCS-8 used on AM/CW top of the hour.* www.navsource.org/archives/10/15/151091.htm or www.humboldt-arc.org

Jan 31, 1400Z-2100Z, Punxsutawney, PA. Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club, K3HWJ. Commemorating Groundhog Day 2009. 14.240 7.240 146.715 147.390. Certificate. Mike Miller, N3HBH, 1097 Wishaw Rd, Reynoldsville, PA 15851. n3hbh@pennswoods.net or www.qsl.net/k3hwj

Jan 31-Feb 4, 1500Z-0400Z, Lubbock, TX. Buddy Holly Memorial, W5B. 50th anniversary of the death of Buddy Holly. 18.150 14.260 7.260 3.860. QSL. Bryan Edwards, 3801 68th St, Lubbock, TX 79413. www.amcrc.com/w5b

Feb 7, 1400Z-2000Z, Nacogdoches, TX. Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club, W5NAC. 6th Annual Space Shuttle Columbia Recovery SES. 21.350 14.250 7.250. QSL. Nacogdoches ARC, 167 County Rd 2093, Nacogdoches, TX 75965. www.w5nac.com

Feb 13-Feb 15, 1900Z-2300Z, Kingman, AZ. Hualapai Amateur Radio Club, WB6RER. Memorial Event for Andy V. Devine (1905-1977). 14.260 7.260. QSL. Hualapai Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 4364, Kingman, AZ 86402. wb6rer.n7fl.us

Feb 14, 1400Z-2200Z, Leavenworth, KS. Kickapoo QRP Amateur Radio Club, W0EBB. 5th Annual 'Freeze Your Keys' Winter Operating Event. 14.280 14.060 7.280 7.030. QSL. Gary Auchard, 34058 167th St, Leavenworth, KS 66048. w0ebb@juno.com

Feb 17-Mar 2, 0100Z-2359Z, Tucson, AZ. Grand Canyon DX & Contest Club, W7R. 84th Annual La Fiesta de Los Vaqueros. 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. QSL. Donald Birch, 7725 N Red Wing Cir, Tucson, AZ 85741-1334. k7nn@arrl.net

Feb 20-Feb 23, 0100Z-2359Z, George, WA. Eastern Washington DX Club, W7G. George Washington's Birthday from George, WA. 14.250 18.135 7.225 3.880. QSL. Brian Nielson, 11650 Raod 1 SE, Moses Lake, WA 98837. w7bjn@nwi.net or www.qrz.com/w7g

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Uncle Ed's Rule of Thumb:

Never use your thumb for a rule. You'll either hit it with a hammer or get a splinter in it.

Never put off until tomorrow what you can do today. There might be a law against it by that time.

I like work: it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours. Jerome K. Jerome (1859 - 1927), *"Three Men in a Boat"*, 1889

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A Bit of History?

The three Goldberg brothers, Norman, Hiram, and Max, invented and developed the first automobile air conditioner.

On July 17, 1946, the temperature in Detroit was 97 degrees. The three brothers walked into old man Henry

Ford's office and sweet-talked his secretary into telling him that three gentlemen were there with the most exciting innovation in the auto industry since the electric starter.

Henry was curious and invited them into his office. They refused and instead asked that he come out to the parking lot to their car.

They persuaded him to get into the car, in which it was about 130 degrees. They then turned on the air conditioner and cooled the car off immediately. The old man got very excited and invited them back to his office, where he offered them \$3 million for the patent.

The brothers refused, saying they would settle for \$2 million, but they wanted the recognition by having a label, "The Goldberg Air-Conditioner," on the dashboard of each car that it was installed in.

Now, old man Ford was more than just a little anti-Semitic, and there was no way he was going to put the Goldbergs' name on two million Fords.

They haggled back and forth for about two hours and finally agreed on \$4 million, and that just their first names would be shown.

And so to this day, all Ford air conditioners show Norm, Hi, and Max on the dashboard.

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**Amateur Radio Newslines**

**Report 1637 - December 26, 2008**

ENFORCEMENT: WIRELESS PC HEADPHONES INTERFERE WITH VK REPEATER

From down-under comes word that Australia's telecommunications regulator ACMA has confiscated a consumer device that was wreaking havoc on a 2 meter repeater. The unit turned out to be a pair of wireless headphones, with a talk back-channel, designed to be used with a PC online.

The headphones carried a brand label Omni model WEP-910D. It turned out that they use the 2 meter frequency of 147.000 MHz as to deliver audio to the headphones. This

explains why hams in range of the repeater being jammed heard endless hours of whatever was being processed through the offending PC's sound card.

Now, here's the kicker. Not knowing that the unit was in a ham radio band the users of these headphones complained that on some occasions they heard "voices talking to them" on their personal computer system.

As there may be more of these units in use anywhere in the world, hams need to keep an ear out for them. Most appear to operate on 147.000 MHz +/- about 15 kHz, so users listening to repeaters on or near 147.000 MHz are more likely to be affected by these units. (WIA News)

#### DXCC NEWS: MOUNT ATHOS WANTS HELP KEEPING SY PREFIX

A decision by Greek telecommunications authorities may cause confusion in then DXCC program and the Monks at Mount Athos monastery are asking your help to sort it all out.

According to Monk Appolo, a recent change in regulations made by the Greek Ministry of Communications has re-designated the longtime Mount Athos SY prefix to special call status and has made it available to any Greek ham who wants it. Monk Appolo says that those at the Ministry do not understand the importance of Mount Athos as a separate DXCC entity to the world of amateur radio and to the DXCC program itself. .

To help reverse the decision, Monk Apollo is asking hams world-wide to send an email to the Greek telecommunications ministry at [yne@otenet.gr](mailto:yne@otenet.gr). He says to request that they act to once again reserve the SY prefix solely for the use of Mount Athos. This, to eliminate any confusion to the DXCC

#### RADIO IN SPACE: SATELLITE CONFIRMS CRACKS IN EARTS MAGNETIC SHIELD

Recent satellite observations have revealed the largest breach yet seen in the magnetic field receded to date.

Scientists have long known that the Earth's magnetic field is similar to a drafty old house that sometimes lets in charged particles from the sun. These breaches cause the brilliant auroras but can also disrupt satellite and ground communications.

The discovery was made last summer by a fleet of five small NASA satellites known as Themis. Their observations showed the Earth's magnetic field occasionally develops two cracks that allows a stream of charged particles spewing from the sun to penetrate the Earth's upper atmosphere.

Last summer, Themis calculated a layer of solar particles to be at least 4,000 miles thick in the outermost part of the Earth's magnetosphere. This is the largest tear of the planets protective shield found so far.

#### HAM RADIO IN SPACE: W5KWQ TALK ABOUT HIS ARISS EXPERIENCE

Space traveler Richard Garriott, W5KWQ, ha been interviewed by science fiction writer Tracy Hickman about Garriott's recent visit to the International Space Station. During the session, W5KWQ talked about his experience of operating amateur radio on orbit and conversing with the ham community worldwide.

The entire interview is 2 hours and 45 minutes in duration. Its available in 3 installments. You will find it at <http://feeds.feedburner.com/Dragonhearth> (Southgate)

#### PUBLIC SERVICE: THE WARNER ROBINS SANTA PATROL

Hams in Warner Robins, Georgia calling themselves the Santa Patrol have received praise from a local newspaper. This, for their work with police and 911 dispatchers to offer extra sets of eyes and ears to law enforcement during the holiday season. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the Newsroom with more:

According to a Macon Sun News story, the 15 member radio equipped group calling itself the Santa Patrol spreads out mostly in store parking lots. There they monitor the surroundings looking for suspicious activity during the holiday season. They are especially on the lookout for people who appear to be following shoppers out to their cars or folks going through parking lots peering into car windows.

The majority of Santa Patrol members simply sit in their vehicles and watch. For the most part they look like a typical husband waiting on his wife to come out of the store.

But some members are more visible. These hams walk

through the parking lots with his hand-held radio in plain sight. If they spot someone suspicious they radio back to a ham stationed at the Houston County 911 Center, where the sheriff's office has a desk set up for the Santa Patrol. The 911 operators and police then decide whether to send out a police officer.

The complete article on the Warner Robins ham radio Santa Patrol including quotes from some of the ham operators involved makes great reading. Its on-line at [www.macon.com/197/story/563630.html](http://www.macon.com/197/story/563630.html) (Macon On Line)

#### RESCUE RADIO: FEMA ANNOUNCES IPAWS CONTRACTOR HUNT

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is looking for vendors to help implement the future generation version of Emergency Activation System better known by the acronym EAS.

FEMA recently published a request for information on implementing the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System known by its own acronym of IPAWS. According to the news release IPAWS will use mobile media such as cell phones, pagers, laptop computers and other personal communications devices to warn people of dangerous situations. This through live or pre-recorded audio, video and text messages in multiple languages and with support for American Sign Language and Braille.

Responses to the government solicitation are due by January 30, 2009. A fascinating article about the IPAWS system and its role in future rescue radio operations is on-line at [www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/#0](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/#0) (FEMA, RW)

#### TELECOM LAW: DEMOCRATS MAY SEEK EXPANDED FAIRNESS DOCTRINE

According to news reports Republican Minority Leader John Boehner is concerned about Democratic Representative Anne Eshoo's statements to the Palo Alto Daily Post. This, where Eshoo says that she will push Congress to reinstate and expand the so-called Fairness Doctrine to other FCC regulated services. Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has more:

The Fairness Doctrine was a policy of the Federal Communications Commission that for many years. It required the holders of broadcast licenses both to present controversial issues of public importance and to do so in a manner that was in the Commission's view honest,

equitable, and balanced. It was scrapped by the FCC as unconstitutional in 1987. Congress tried to revive it, but President Ronald Reagan vetoed it once and pledged at the time that he would block it again if congress tried to re-impose it.

The doctrine's demise is credited with the rise in conservative talk radio. Hosts including Rush Limbaugh and Mark Levin have expressed concerns that the new Democratic controlled Congress will try to reinstate the doctrine as a way to silence its critics.. The office of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has also raised the idea of its return.

President-elect Barack Obama has twice told Broadcasting and Cable Magazine that he is opposed to its return. Boehner has now called on him to speak out against any congressional effort to limit free speech.. Regardless, Eshoo says that he will work on bringing it back adding that she would want it to apply to other services rather than just radio and television.

The Fairness Doctrine should not be confused with the Equal Time provision. The Equal Time rule only deals with giving the same access to the airwaves to political candidates running for office. (Published news reports)

#### D-STAR NEWS: ANOTHER NEW MACHINE ON THE AIR IN THE UK

D-Star continues to grow in popularity as an alternative to analog F-M for ham radio utility communications. No where is more evident than in the United Kingdom where the start-up of yet another D-Star repeater has been announced with more than a bit of fanfare.

This one is in London and operates under the callsign GB7OK. The system is located in Bromley. It has an output on 145.7125 MHz and the input 600 kHz lower on 145.1125. The new machine serves both greater London and Kent and is being called by some as an early Christmas present to the hams of that region. (Southgate)

#### EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: THE FUTRE IS LED LIGHTING

Science OnLine says that innovations in photonics and solid state lighting will lead to trillions of dollars in cost savings, along with a massive reduction in the amount of energy required to light homes and businesses around the globe. This, according to a paper published by two professors at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

The paper suggests that a new generation of illuminating devices based on light-emitting diodes or LED's will supplant the common light bulb in coming years. In addition to the environmental and cost benefits of LEDs, the technology is expected to enable a wide range of advances in areas as diverse as healthcare, transportation systems, digital displays, and computer networking.

Researchers say that they are able to control every aspect of light generated by light-emitting diodes, allowing the light sources to be tweaked and optimized for nearly any situation. In general LED's will require 20 times less power than today's conventional light bulbs, and five times less power than compact fluorescent lamps. (ScienceOnLine)

#### EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: FOX TV TO GO ALL HD BY 2010

Fox's television network group plans to distribute all of its cable and networks exclusively in high-definition within two years. It will also eliminate standard-definition feeds with an infrastructure upgrade the company expects will double its satellite capacity.

As part of the project, Fox will convert its encoding and satellite transmission infrastructure to Motorola equipment, covering all cable networks and the national broadcast network. The change will require all cable, satellite and other distributors to install new satellite receiver and decoder units from Motorola, although Fox for the time being will continue to offer the high-definition feeds in the widely used MPEG-2 encoding format.

Fox will begin the switch to the Motorola-based high definition gear on March 1, 2009. Its aiming to migrate all networks by the end of 2010. (MultiChannel News)

#### HAM HAPPENINGS: STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT ON OSCAR 2009

Ray Soifer, W2RS extends an invitation to all radio amateurs worldwide to participate in AMSAT's Straight Key Night on OSCAR 2009.

The event takes place between 0000 and 2400 UTC on January 1st, 2009. Its C-W only and you must use a straight hand key.

Participating is easy. There really are no rules, no scoring and no need to send in a log. Just operate CW through any

OSCAR satellite and have a good fun and safe New Years Eve. (ANS)

#### NAMES IN THE NEWS: N5XFW IS NAMED NEW ARKANSAS SM

J.M. Rowe, N5XFW, of Hot Springs, has been appointed as the new ARRL Arkansas Section Manager with a term that began on December 22nd. He takes over the Section Manager reins from David Norris, K5UZ, who was elected Vice Director of the ARRL Delta Division in November. Norris assumes his office on January 1st, 2009. (ARRL)

#### EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: HIGH POWER AUDIO TO THWART PIRATES AT SEA

A British firm is spearheading use of a high-tech "sonic laser" to beat bandits on the high seas. Burt Hicks, WB6MQV, has the details on this new media based unit:

About the size of a domestic satellite dish, the long range acoustic device blasts the target with a precise beam of sound. This could include warning messages, noise or sirens that can be tuned to excruciatingly painful levels should an attacker get too close.

The sound source for the unit is any standard off the shelf MP3 player. The device has shown to be very effective at up to 1,000 meters and excruciating if you get within 100 or 200 meters. At full power it would result in permanent hearing damage.

According to reports, the device has been tested in an actual attack and the pirates were driven off. (WIA News)

#### RADIO IN SPACE: NEXT LUNAR LANDER MISSION DELAYED TWO YEARS

Another wait before there will be more pictures radioed back to Earth from Mars. This as NASA says that it will delay the launch of the next-generation Mars rover two years due to technical difficulties and cost overruns. Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, has the details:

The mission, which was originally scheduled for late next year, is now slated for 2011. This next generation of automated explorer will be known as the Mars Science Laboratory. Its primary mission will be to try to determine habitability on Mars now and in the past.

According to a report in The Los Angeles Times, the new

target date was the earliest available because missions to Mars can only be launched every 26 months when the Earth and Mars are properly aligned. In the interim, NASA says that it plans to try to contact the Phoenix lander in the Martian springtime.

The Phoenix, which landed on Mars last May, last communicated with the Mars Odyssey orbiter on November 2nd. That's when it lost power and shut down due to sub-freezing temperatures on the red planets surface.

If NASA can revive the Phoenix, it will have a continuing flow of Mars data until the next probe arrives. (NASA)

#### WORLDBEAT: SOUTH AFRICA ON TRACK FOR EXPANDED 40 METER BAND

The South African Radio League has received assurances from that nations telecommunications regulator that the issue of making 7 100 to 7 200 kHz available to radio amateurs as of March 8, 2009, should be finalized by the end of January.

The various changes have been included in the South African national table of frequency allocation. Its expected to be published for comments in the near future.

In the final process, the Minister of Communication will have to approve the table of frequency allocation before it is implementation. The new rules also will carry a correction of the Zed R allocation in the 20 meter band. (Southgate)

#### WORLDBEAT: MEXICO CONTEST AND DX CLUB 4TH ANNIVERSARY

Members of the Mexican Contest and DX group will celebrate their 4th anniversary by using the special callsign 4A1DXXE between December 25th and January 6th of the new year. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSOs with this station are good for the DXXE Award. QSL via N7RO and the Logbook to the World. For more information visit [www.dxxe.org](http://www.dxxe.org). (OPDX)

#### DX

In DX, word that a team of six Italian team have been granted a license to operate from the region called Palestine territory from January 1st to the -11th. They will use the callsign E44M and will be active on 160 through 2 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and all the digital modes with a maximum power of 1 kilowatt on each band. Operations

will be focused on RTTY and the other digital modes, as well as the low bands and 30, 17 and 12 meters. The operators plan to pay special attention to stations outside Europe when the propagation will allow it. Pilot stations will be announced later. More is on line at [www.dxcffee.com/e44m](http://www.dxcffee.com/e44m)

F4EGX, as FT5Y has been heard from the French scientific station "Dumont D'Urville." Nicolas doesn't know if he will spend Christmas at the station or on the boat headed home. He will be back in France around the New Year. If you worked him, QSL as directed on the air.

JA8BMK has gone QRT as T31DX from Central Kiribati and is now headed back to Christmas Island. He should be there around by the end of the week. Look for him to be active as T32YY again once he arrives. QSL direct to JA8BMK.

(Above from various DX sources)

#### HELPING HAMS: CHRISTMAS AND THE NORTH POLE NETWORK

And finally this week, it seems that radio propagation to the northern latitudes is always especially good near the end of December. That gives hams the chance to connect hospitalized children to a very special inhabitant of the frozen north. Newsline's Joe Moell K0OV has a report on this year's North Pole Network.

K0OV: When you talk with a station 'way up north at this time of year, do you hear the cold wind and the sound of reindeer hoofbeats? Well, the kids at Childrens Hospital of Orange County do, and they have been hearing it for 33 years.

WA6OPS: North Pole station, are you still on the air, Santa? This is WA6OPS.

SANTA (with cold wind): Ho, ho, ho, Santa copies you loud and clear at the North Pole station.

K0OV: And what happens next is pure magic. Santa already knows who is in the hospital that day, thanks to hard work by his elves.

WA6OPS: Hey Santa, signals are holding up well today. We're in room 316, do you happen to know who's in here with me?

SANTA: Ho, ho, ho, Santa certainly does. And I'm very happy because I want to say a very Merry Christmas to Cody Waters. Santa knows that he's going home today and Merry Christmas to his Mom and Dad also.

WA6OPS: You're Cody? That's great, do you want to say hi to Santa?

CODY: Hi Santa Claus!

SANTA: Merry Christmas Cody, and you have a very nice voice.

CODY: Merry Christmas to you too Santa Claus.

WA6OPS: Hey as long as we've got Santa on the radio and he's got his computer up, here's your chance to get in your last minute wishes.

CODY: "Piranha Panic," a board game please.

WA6OPS: Santa do the elves work on that stuff?

SANTA: Ho, ho, ho, oh yes, and Santa wants to say hello to Stacy [the nurse] also.

NURSE: Santa, he's been good for me today.

WA6OPS: Just today?

NURSE: Well I've just had him today, but I've heard from the other nurses and he deserves his piranha game.

WA6OPS: OK, so Cody's on the good list, right Santa?

SANTA: Ho, ho, ho, oh yes definitely, and a Merry Christmas to the nurse and thank you for being so good and kind to all the boys and girls at the hospital.

K0OV: Note that Santa has involved more than just the child. He's also talking to the family members and caregivers. Then he has to deal with some very noisy elves.

WA6OPS: What do you think about those elves, they're noisy aren't they? But you know, you look like you could be a good elf. Would you like to work up there? Yeah, he'd be a good elf worker, wouldn't he?

SANTA (with noisy elves): Ho, ho, ho, yes, he certainly would, and the elves would love to have him up here to help test out the toys before I get to deliver them. Every

once in a while Santa has to go out in the workshop and tell them to calm down.

WA6OPS: Yeah, they get a little carried away. Santa, thanks for talking to us and from Cody and all the friends in the room ...

ALL: Merry Christmas!

SANTA: Merry Christmas to the Waters family.

K0OV: North Pole Network at Childrens Hospital began back in 1976 and hasn't missed a year since. This year, there were dozens of kids and it took seven hours to go from room to room and see them all, including the ones in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. It's a project of the Hospital Disaster Support Communications System, an ARES group that serves all 35 hospitals in the county when communications fail. This is the same group that helped evacuate respiratory patients from a hospital in Brea during the recent southern California firestorm.

You can read about the groups rescue radio work and the North Pole Network at the group's Web site, [www.hdscs.org](http://www.hdscs.org). That's short for Hospital Disaster Support Communications System, with a dot org. Click on North Pole to see photos from this year and all the way back to the beginning. (K0OV, ARNewsline")

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline". Our e-mail address is [newsline@arnewsline.org](mailto:newsline@arnewsline.org). More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's" only official website located at [www.arnewsline.org](http://www.arnewsline.org). You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline", P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73, happy holidays, a joyous new year and as always.

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**THIBODAUX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

2009 membership information

PO BOX 143

THIBODAUX, LA. 70302

PLEASE FILL IN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR CLUB ROSTER

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDAY MO \_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL MEMBER YES ( ) NO ( )

MEMBERSHIP: ( ) LIFETIME \$200 ( ) REGULAR \$20

LICENSE TYPE: ( ) EXTRA ( ) ADV ( ) GEN ( ) TECH ( ) TECH PLUS ( ) NOVICE

E-MAIL ( ) YES ( ) NO E-ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS DUES PER YEAR \$10.00**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDAY MO \_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSE TYPE: ( ) EXTRA ( ) ADV ( ) GEN ( ) TECH ( ) TECH PLUS ( ) NOVICE