

Feedline



www.qsl.net/n4nc/
N4NC@arrl.net

The Voice of The Cary Amateur Radio Club
N4NC

February 2002

Pheedline Phun Phacts

By Kaz, W4KAZ

As luck would have it, there is a phat phull pholder oph phascinating Pheedline phun phacts phor Pheedline philling...PHREE!..... Thanks for your contributions.

I was having a tough time stringing together wholesome "f" words, so no editorial comments this month. You may all breath a sigh of relief.....

February Meeting---CARC Annual Auction

73, Clare N2RJB

I just wanted to let you all know that our CARC annual auction has been moved from the March meeting to the February meeting, Thursday, February 28 at 7:31PM. So we just have a little over three weeks to clean out our Junque closets and stack our good stuff by the door so we won't forget it or forget the meeting night.

Seriously, I thought last year's CARC auction was a lot of fun and well worth the effort. A lot of interesting odds and ends were auctioned and I bought a couple myself. I really had to bite my tongue to keep from bidding on those two 100MHz oscilloscopes that were sold. I will be looking hard at those things I haven't used in several years and I'll be bringing at least some of them with me so someone else can have the pleasure of owning and perhaps even using them.

I hope to see you all there and encourage you to bring a friend. And some interesting things to sell.
<Editor's note: The CARC Auction is open to any and all area amateurs, not just Cary ARC members! The more the merrier, so y'all come!>

Cary ARC to Host NWS Spotter Update in March

From Herb, W3HL

The Cary ARC is going to hold the March 28, 7:30 p.m., meeting at the McKimmon Center, NCSU Campus, Western Blvd., Raleigh, NC, to host the NWS Spotter Update by Mr. George Lemmons, NWS.

The meeting will forego the usual CARC business to devote the entire meeting to the Spotter Update.

All interested Radio Amateurs are invited to get "updated" at the meeting. Amateurs from Wake, Durham, Chatham, Johnston, Franklin Counties are invited to attend this very timely meeting. The hurricane and bad weather season is about to start.

Mr. Lemmons has asked us to publicize this meeting within the Amateur community ONLY. Please do not "go public" with information about this meeting (e.g., TV, newspapers, etc.). But DO talk it up on the repeaters, at meetings, etc.

The Cary ARC will be sending letters of invitation to as many clubs as we can get addresses for.

CARC's only purpose is to try to make Mr. Lemmon's valuable time more effective by gathering as big a group of hams as we can for his interesting and informative presentation.

Cary ARC Technician Class Graduates New Hams

Photos from Herb, W3HL

Congratulations to the class of '02! Lets everyone welcome these folks into the community. Thanks to Herb and Alf for putting together a successful class, and to the VE team for making it possible to reward these new hams for their work.

The VE Team

Charlie,

Susan,

Will

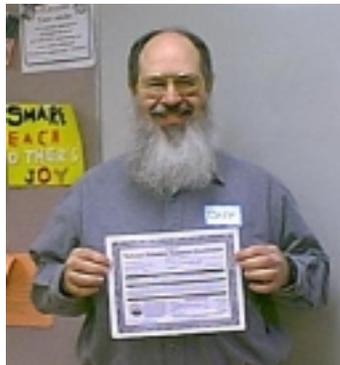


.....and the new Tech licensee's!

Billy
KG4RIV



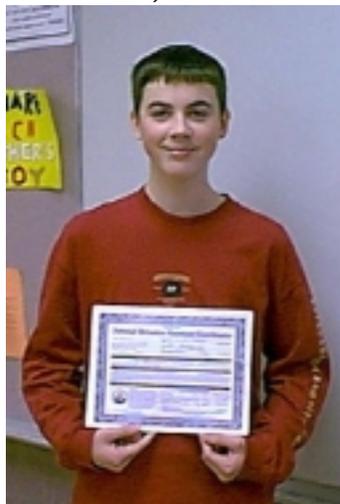
Chip
KG4RIW



Sarah (XYL of Dick, KM4SX)
KG4RIX



David, KG4RIY



.....and just in case any of these new Tech's are feeling ambitious.....

Amateur Extra License Class

From Frank, W4FAL

The Smith Chart Amateur Radio Society, K4OO announces an Amateur Extra License Class. The class begins Monday March 4, 2002, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM and meets every Monday night through May 13. The VE test session in Smithfield is the following Saturday.

The question pool for the Extra test will be changing July 1. This will be the last Extra class that SCARS will be conducting based on the existing Extra question pool. If you want to upgrade, now is a good time. In my opinion the new question pool (some 800 questions) is not going to make the Extra exam any easier.

The fee for the class is \$20.00 and includes the ARRL Extra Class License Manual that we will be using as the text. The class will be held at the Knightdale Fire Station #2 at the intersection of Poole and Clifton Roads. From the I-440 Poole Road exit, take Poole Road east approximately 4.5 miles. The station will be on your left.

Pre-registration is required for this class. I must have your class fee (\$20.00) by Feb 25, 2002 so that the training materials can be ordered. In the event that we don't have enough pre-registrations to hold the class the class fee will be refunded.

To pre-register send checks payable to:

Frank A. Lynch, W4FAL
2528 Oakes Plantation Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610-9328
919-217-1999 (Home)
919-905-2934 (Work)
w4fal@arrrl.net

The Smith Chart Amateur Radio Society, K4OO is an ARRL Special Service Club.

Coming Contests

February, 2002

ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 11	- 0100Z, Feb 16
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 16	- 2400Z, Feb 17
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 22	- 1600Z, Feb 24
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z	- 1100Z, Feb 24 and
	1500Z	- 1700Z, Feb 24
North Carolina QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 24	- 0300Z, Feb 25
CQC Winter QSO Party	2200, Feb 24	- 0359Z, Feb 25

March, 2002

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Mar 2	- 2400Z, Mar 3
RSGB Commonwealth Contest, CW	1000Z, Mar 9	- 1000Z, Mar 10
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z	- 0400Z, Mar 10
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 10	- 0100Z, Mar 11
Alaska QSO Party	0000Z, Mar 16	- 2400Z, Mar 17
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 16	- 1200Z, Mar 17
Virginia QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 16	- 0200Z, Mar 18
Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z	- 0400Z, Mar 25
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 30	- 2400Z, Mar 31

For Sale Items

The following items are from the estate of Bill, W4FNB.

ICOM 761 SN 01420 - exc cond - original owner - IC-HM12 mic - IC-EX310 Voice Synth. - 101 filter(9MHz CW/RTTY) 102 filter (9MHz AM) - Factory installed VCO trimmer caps mod - all new front panel control button caps - 5 position custom mike input selector for IC-HM12 or Shure 419B, Shure 419-B w/xfmr, Hi-Z isolated ground mic, 3 Cond Hi-Z mic, and TNC /hf packet. Coax switch. Service manual, owner manual, Icom brochures; qst and 73 mag reviews. Original retail carton and shipping box. \$1050 or best offer. Buyer pays shipping from Raleigh NC. Contact klimala@mindspring.com . picture available on request

Yaesu FT990 - SN 6K 490015 - Built-in in AC Power Supply - exc cond - original owner - MH1-B8 mic with up/dn freq - 500HZ CW filter - auto-antenna tuner with memory for instant recall - owner manual w/schematics - Icom brochures. \$950 or best offer. Buyer pays shipping from Raleigh NC. . Contact klimala@mindspring.com . picture available on request

Yaesu YS-60 - SN 0603050 Inline power meter and SWR Bridge - 1.6 - 60 MHz CW/AM/FM/FSK/PEP(SSB) - 3 power scales and two SWR scales - with power supply and mounting bracket - measures average and PEP levels \$75 or best offer. Buyer pays shipping from Raleigh NC. . Contact klimala@mindspring.com . picture available on request

Hammerlund HQ 180-C Receiver - original owner - exc cond - all documentation - Hammerlund installed 24hr clock timer - includes several Hammerlund-supplied modifications (CW mon - Xtal Calib - noise blanker) We doubt you can find a better example of this radio. \$250 or best offer. Buyer pays shipping from Raleigh NC. . Contact klimala@mindspring.com . More pictures available on request.



Figure 1-Beautiful!



Figure 2-Clean too!

Kenwood TM 201-B 45/5 Watt - SN 7080006 - DTMF mic - Kenwood Comm Spkr - power cord - mtg bracket \$50 or best offer. Buyer pays shipping from Raleigh NC. . Contact klimala@mindspring.com picture available on request

JPS ANC-4 - SN 012325 - Antenna Noise Controller - Instruction Manual - 12V plug included - includes two noise antennas \$75 or best offer. Buyer pays shipping from Raleigh NC. . Contact klimala@mindspring.com picture available on request

CARC Christmas Party - 29 Nov 2001

The Cary Amateur Radio Club held their annual Christmas party on Nov. 29, 2001, at the Golden Corral on Dillard Drive. This party is held instead of having a November and December meeting. There were about 30 hams, spouses, and children attending.

After eating our meal in a room reserved by Herb, W3HL, the actual party started. Flowers were presented by Ed, AB4S, to Nina Lacey, Herb's spouse, in appreciation of all she has done for the club Christmas party in the past.

Door prizes were passed out as a result of three drawings, by Herb, W3HL, held in the categories of children, ham spouses, and hams. They were won as follows: Children - the 2 boys of Charles, KE4CDI (they were the only "children" present.) These were gift certificates at McDonalds, for \$10.

Spouses - These went to Patty, Charles' (KE4CDI) wife, and to Judy Whitten, (KC4ACE), Reed's (AB4W) wife. (This is why this category is not listed as non-ham spouse!) These prizes were a \$20 gift certificate.

Hams - The winners here were Reed, AB4W, who chose the ARRL Handbook, and Mike, WA4KE, who won the ARRL Antenna Handbook. He declined the prize, and it went to Glenn, K9RGS. Gifts were presented to the attendees, handmade Christmas ornaments, made by Nina Lacey. They were beautiful, as usual. Thanks were said to Herb and Nina, again, for arranging this get-together.

Lee H. Swanson, N4AJF Secretary, CARC

CARC Minutes - 24 Jan 2002

The January meeting of the Cary Amateur Radio Club was held on 24 January, 2002. The meeting was opened at 7:31 P.M. by the president, Ed, AB4S. Introductions by the attendees were done, there were 15 in attendance, 10 members and 5 guests, among which were at least 2 attendees of the current ham class.

The treasurer's report, given by Susan, WA4AKB, was as follows: About \$3500.00

The secretary's report, given by Lee, N4AJF, was to refer to the November issue of the "Feedline" for the October minutes, as that was our last regular meeting.

Club Business:

- Cary Swapfest:

Alf, KQ4FP, has flyers for giving out to dealers, etc. at any upcoming hamfests. Will, K4IWW, has reserved the place for the Swapfest.

- Ham class:

Herb, W3HL, reported that there were 9 registered for the Technician Class. The test will be given next Sat., Jan. 26, with 6 or 7 expected to take it. He thanked Alf, KQ4FP, and Keith, W4KAZ, for their help. Other classes noted -

- RARS, even numbered months, first Tuesday, about 7:30, regular club meeting place.
- TEARA, Feb. 16, 2002 - 9:30, Smithfield.
- Gary, KN4AQ, announced that RARS will have ham classes on Mon. and Thurs. from March 4 thru April 11.

- Discussion on N4NC

Will, K4IWW, reported on N4NC internet operation. He operates it for the club, gets 2 or 3 questions per week, which he handles.

- ARES Net

John, KG4HDT, reminded us of the Wake County 2M. ARES net, at 9:15 each Thursday night, on 146.88 MHz.

- Skywarn Spotter Class

Herb, W3HL, discussed the SkyWarn Spotter Update. The date was not finalized, but will probably be March 28th, at McKimmon Center, about 7:30 to 9:30 P.M. The cost to us is about \$2.17. George Lemon will host it, and attendees should email N4NC, to help gauge proposed attendance.

- Next CARC meeting

Clare, N2RJB, announced that program for the February meeting will be the annual auction. This is usually done in March, but would conflict with the SkyWarn Spotter class.

- Field Day

Will, K4IWW, brought up the question of Field Day. Would we hold it again at Bond Park, or where? Herb, W3HL, volunteered to be the "Czar" this year. He is thinking of 3A (2 CW, 1 Phone), plus VHF if available. Some discussion stated that VHF may be not "free" this year, and other possible rule changes.

- **Announcements**

1. Will, K4IWW, mentioned some free antennas and mast in Sanford, for the taking down.
2. There is to be a Transmitter hunt this Saturday, Jan. 26, run by NZ0L.
3. SERA (Southeastern Repeater Association) was announced again by Gary, KN4AQ. He had sample copies of the "SERA Journal" available.
4. Lee, N4AJF, again announced the availability of CARC hats, at \$4.00 each.
5. ALF, KQ4FP, made the suggestion that we look into a program on linking Ham Radio to the Internet. Danny, KD4RAA, has this operational on one of his repeaters. Clare, N2RJB, our vice-president and program chairman, said he would look into it.
6. Herb, W3HL, said he would be taking up money for early purchase of tickets for the Charlotte Hamfest, at the break. He will do the same for RARS Hamfest at the next meeting.
7. The RARS February meeting is next week, 2/5/2002.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15. There was a short break before the program.

- **January Program**

The program, on Emergency Preparedness, was given by our vice-president and program chairman, Clare, N2RJB. He did a great job of telling and showing us some of the things we should think about, particularly with equipment, as we prepare for things like the upcoming hurricane season. There was much interest and many questions from the floor, and everyone came away with some new things to think about. He also prepared a handout for us, with information taken from some sites on the World Wide Web.

Lee H. Swanson, N4AJF
Secretary, CARC

Info on RARSfest 2002.

From Hank Montgomery, K4HM, RARSfest Chairman
The 30th annual RARSfest will be take place on **April 14th, 2002** at the Jim Graham Building at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds - Raleigh, NC. This year RARSfest will host of the ARRL North Carolina State Convention. And FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH returns again this year as our guest speaker.

RARSfest is the largest hamfest in the northern piedmont area of NC with average attendance of around 2500 paid admissions. RARSfest is all indoors, held in a 100,000 sq. ft facility offering an attractive fully equipped dealer booths and vendor area as well as over 400 tables in our all indoor flea market.

RARSfest attractions include:

- Major prize drawing for an ICOM 706 Mk-II-G HF/6m/2m/70cm Transceiver
- An ICOM 207-H 2m rig given away each hour from 11am through 2pm.
- A \$125 pre-registration drawing.
- VE Test Session.
- Contests for Homebrew, QLF, and QBH
- Various Forums and Meetings.
- DXCC QSL card checking by QSL Manager Bill McDowell, K4CIA
- Saturday evening social/supper
- AND FREE PARKING!

For details see the RARS web page at <http://rars.org> and click on the hamfest link, or contact Hank Montgomery - K4HM@arrl.net, phone (919) 577-1254.

Thanks es 73, Hank Montgomery - K4HM RARSfest Chairman

Charlotte 2002 Hamfest and Computerfair

This year the Charlotte hamfest presents "The 20th Anniversary Celebration of Heil Sound". This year's fest will be held **March 9th & 10th, 2002**. Buy your tickets early! For complete details see www.w4bfb.org or call (704) 948-7373. This year's pre registration prize is an Icom IC-R75 Receiver.

New product alert! : Two vendors will introduce new products in Charlotte. **Heil Sound** will introduce the **PRO-Set PLUS**, which will be available, priced at \$189.00. The new headset comes with both the HC-4 DX and HC-5 microphone elements, plus other improved features. **Ten-Tec** will be introducing a new top-of-the line 100 watt HF transceiver, the **ORION**. ORION will be "a completely new, ground-up design top-of-the-line HF transceiver from Ten-Tec. We anticipate the retail price will be in the \$3,300 range". Receiver performance is said to "exceed the Omni-VI Plus and all of the currently available Japanese HF transceivers".

Elkin Winter Hamfest

73 de KG4FLA

The Briarpatch ARC and the Foothills ARC are pleased to announce the Elkin, NC Winter Hamfest. The hamfest will be held at the National Guard Armory in **Elkin, NC. Sunday February 24, 2002**. Elkin is off I-77 at Exit 82. Plenty of inside tables are still available, as well as limited "tailgate" spaces outside. Pat Hill, AE4HK is handling table reservations at (276)236-6747. E-mail Table reservation requests or general info to KG4FLA@HOTAIL.COM.

This is an ARRL sanctioned event, and VE testing will be available on site. Testing will begin at 9:00 A.M. (Please have two forms of ID, with photocopy's as well as any current license or CSCE's)

USA ARDF Championships Coming In April

Charles, NZ0I

The USA Amateur Radio Direction Finding Championships for 2002 are coming April 19-21, 2002 at F. D. Roosevelt State Park near Pine Mountain, Georgia.

This is a rare opportunity. The championships will be less than one day's drive from central North Carolina! It may be years before the USA Championships return to the Southeast.

The USA ARDF Championships are a great way to meet fellow transmitter hunters and radio orienteers from across the USA, and from around the world. The championships are also a whole lot of fun. So don't miss your chance to experience this so close to home.

If you think you might have any interest in on-foot transmitter hunting, please consider participating in Georgia this spring. There are divisions for both men and women, and every age group. You don't have to be an athlete, or have any prior experience with the sport. There will be training sessions and practice opportunities just prior to the event itself, and hunting equipment is available for loan. So let's have the Tar Heel State well represented in this year's Championships. Visit their web site for more information: <<http://www.mindspring.com/~sam.smith/gaoc/Radio-O/Radio.htm>>

If you'd like a taste of on-foot transmitter hunting prior to the Championships, then consider attending one or more of the practice events. See the Piedmont Transmitter Tracking web site <<http://www.qsl.net/nz0i/>> for the hunt schedule.

In anticipation of the championships in April, and because winter weather in the Triangle is so mercurial, for the next several months there will be unscheduled local practice sessions held whenever weekend weather permits. Hunters, hiders, and observers are always welcome! Please subscribe to the PiedmontTrackers e-mail list to be informed as soon as a hunt is announced.

Please address your questions regarding this announcement to Charles (NZ0I) by e-mail cscharlau@intrex.net, or by phone 919-932-5464.

The Amateur's Code

From Susan, WA4AKB

The Amateur's code appears in the front of many ARRL and other publications. It was written by Paul M. Segal in 1928. The ideals stated in the Amateur's code are relevant for all times for all aspects of our life. It does not apply only to amateur radio in 1928, but to living a well-balanced life (as noted the 5th point) for anyone in any time, regardless of interest in Amateur radio. The great thing about Amateur Radio is that all of the people who I know through Amateur Radio follow the code, whether they know it or not.

In its entirety, the Amateur's code reads:

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE... knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... offers loyalty, encouragement, and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States in nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach

FRIENDLY... slow and patient operation when requested: friendly advise and counsel to the Beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school, or community.

PATRIOTIC... station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

Over the next few months, we will republish a series written on the Amateur's code by Murray Merner, K4MHM. This series was published in the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club's *Ham Chatter* on a bimonthly basis in 2000, highlighting each point from the Amateur's code. In 2001, Murray kindly gave us permission to republish his work and benefit from his insights. Murray is a highly respected member of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club (BARC). He is a past vice-president and president of BARC. He is currently their new ham class manager. Murray is originally from Canada. His educational background is in electronics and in psychology. (Biographical information is taken from the BARC Ham Chatter)

Volunteer Communicators Needed

Charles, NZ0I

If you enjoy public service events, and you enjoy spending time out-of-doors, then here's an opportunity made to order. The Scholastic Orienteering Championships, held the weekend of March 23-24 at Raven Rock State Park (near Sanford), needs volunteer communicators. The event will attract over 400 participants from North Carolina and surrounding states to participate in a competition of map-and-compass skills. Communicators are needed to help relay competitor split-time information, from waypoints in the woods, back to the finish line. Up to five communicators are needed on each day of the event. You will need a 2-meter handy-talky, some spare batteries, and a few weekend hours to spend in the woods.

On the web visit <<http://www.hampublicservice.org/calendar.html>> for more information. To volunteer, or if you have further questions, please contact Charles (NZ0I) by e-mail cscharlau@intrex.net, or by phone 919-932-5464.

Solar cycles

Link reported by Charles, NZ0I

NASA Science News for January 18, 2002: Evidence is mounting that some solar cycles are doubled-peaked. The ongoing solar maximum may itself be a double -- and the second peak has arrived. FULL STORY at http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2002/18jan_solarback.htm?list631196

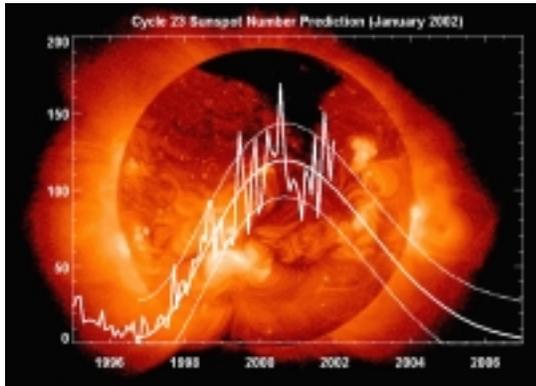


Figure 3 - Cycle 23 Sunspot Prediction- January 2002

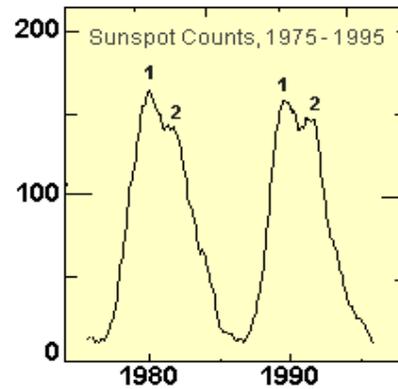


Figure 4 - Sunspot counts, 1975-1995

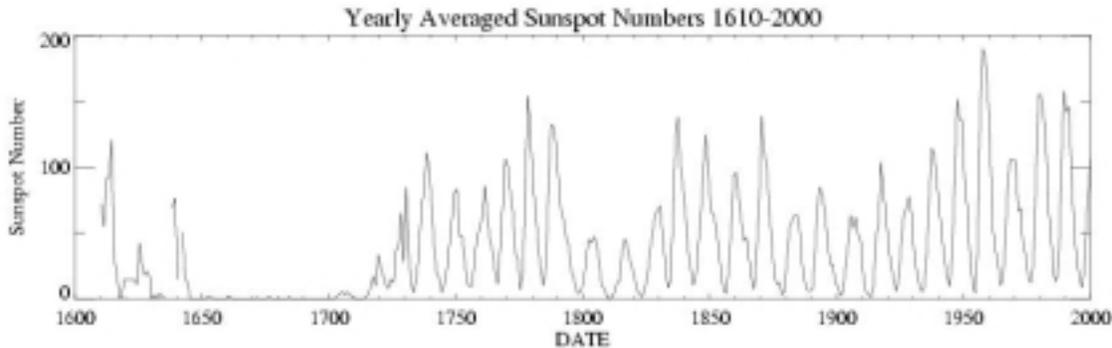


Figure 5-Yearly Averages Sunspot Numbers 1610-2000

Have We Seen The Best Of 6 And 10 Meters?

By Keith, W4KAZ

After reading the piece at the web link above, and clicking through to some of the HTML links, I decided to arrange some of the related information in a way that may be of interest to hams. Figure 3 shows the variation of the sunspot counts going back nearly 400 years. Comparing figure 1 to figure 3, it appears that this year's peak was just shy of the 1959 cycle, in a brief spike of activity, though the averaged number is somewhat less than the peak of the last two cycles.

If you go along with the theory that there are cycles of sunspot cycles, it would appear that we can expect the next several 11 year cycles to be trending downwards. I'm just guessing, but I'm sure less inclined to expect the possibilities of 5 watt DX on 10 meters over the next 50 years after seeing these graphics. Whatever is going on, even the youngest of us will not likely live long enough to know. Ole Sol keeps huffing and puffing. If we are going into another trough in the cycle of cycles, it may really be time to hope for a 40 meter band free of broadcast stations.

Also, it seems to me the "global warming" political lobby is agitating against the wrong culprit. "Hey, somebody throw a bucket of water on that thing!"

FCC Affirms \$10,000 Fine In Amateur Pirate Case

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 21, No. 03, January 18, 2002
and The American Radio Relay League

The FCC has fined a Texas man \$10,000 for transmitting without a license on an Amateur Radio band. Following a Notice of Apparent Liability issued in September, the FCC affirmed the \$10,000 fine in a December 26 Forfeiture Order to David Edwin Merrell of Wichita Falls. The FCC said Merrell did not respond to the NAL.

In its earlier NAL, the FCC said it was acting on "numerous complaints" from the amateur community that an unidentified station operating on 7235 and 7238 kHz in the 40-meter band was causing "intentional interference to authorized communications." The FCC's High Frequency Direction Finding network determined that the signal was located in the Wichita Falls area. Last June, agents in the FCC's Dallas office monitored an unidentified station on 7220 kHz and determined that the transmission was coming from Merrell's residence. "The station did not identify and transmitted only one-way broadcasts," the FCC said.

During as station inspection, Merrell "admitted to the transmissions and stated that he did not have a station operator license," the FCC said. Unconfirmed reports to the FCC indicate that Merrell may have continued to occasionally transmit on 40 meters following the FCC visit.

"Considering the entire record and applying the statutory factors listed above, this case warrants a \$10,000 forfeiture," the FCC concluded. Merrell has 30 days from the date of the Order's release to pay the fine. If not paid, the matter could be referred to the Department of Justice for collection.

ARRL Offers On-Line "Antenna Restrictions 'How To' Chart"

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 21, No. 03, January 18, 2002
and The American Radio Relay League

The ARRL Regulatory Information Branch has made available a "triage center" of sorts for amateurs facing the prospect of dealing with various roadblocks to erecting an antenna system at their residence. The new "Antenna Restrictions 'How To' Chart" page <<http://www.ARRL.org/FandES/field/regulations/ant-how-to-charts.html>> offers three separate outlines that help users to logically work through issues involving local government zoning restrictions; deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs); or rental/lease restrictions relating to antenna structures.

The prime focus is on dealing with Local zoning restrictions to putting up an antenna structure and how to make the best possible case at a local regulatory board hearing. Some of the advice there applies to CC&Rs and rental/lease situations too.

"Remember: at the hearing, your presentation will be 80% of the battle, and 100% of the basis for any record, if the case ends up going to court," the "Important Notice" on the page advises.

Each "how to" outline is structured around a series of questions--much like a logic or flow chart. Depending on the answer, the user is referred to specific information or additional resources. The page also offers some step-by-step suggestions. For example, the local government zoning outline suggests 10 steps to those seeking to change an overly restrictive local amateur antenna ordinance. One of them is to obtain the ARRL book Antenna Zoning for the Radio Amateur (\$49.95; order Item 8217 from ARRL via the Online Store <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=&words=8217>> or order by calling toll-free 888-277-5289). Written by attorney Fred Hopengarten, K1VR, the book offers detailed information on working with local governments and describes proven techniques and strategies that amateurs can employ in efforts to obtain an antenna-structure permit.

As the page emphasizes up front, however, neither this book nor the outlines on the "Antenna Restrictions 'How To' Chart" page are intended as substitutes for advice from an attorney.

The local government zoning outline also offers suggestions and information for amateurs who would like their legislature to incorporate the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into their state's laws. So far, only 13 states have done so, but bills are still in the works in a few others.

The page offers limited guidance to those confronting CC&Rs—an issue facing more and more amateurs these days—and to those who rent or lease their homes and still want to be able to install an antenna—a situation where PRB-1 does not apply. In both instances, affected amateurs are advised to develop and present logical and persuasive cases for being allowed to install an antenna system—much as they would have to do when dealing with a local government.

ARRL Foundation Scholarship Deadline Looms:

The ARRL Letter “In Brief”, Vol. 21, No. 03, January 18, 2002
and The American Radio Relay League

The deadline is fast approaching to apply for ARRL Foundation-sponsored scholarships. Individual awards range from \$500 to \$5000. Don't delay! Send scholarship applications with academic transcripts to The ARRL Foundation, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111. The February 1, 2002, postmark deadline is firm—there are no exceptions! For an application, visit the ARRL Foundation Scholarship Programs Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/arrlf/scholgen.html>>.

President Bush Addresses Florida ARES Net

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 21, No. 5, February 1, 2002
and The American Radio Relay League

President George W. Bush spoke January 31 via Amateur Radio to members of the Northern Florida Amateur Radio Emergency Service Net (NFAN). The president was in Florida to spotlight five volunteer groups for their value to the new Office of Homeland Security—among them the Volusia County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

"I want to thank all the volunteers who help make sure that Florida is prepared for any kind of emergency," the president said in part, after checking in around 9:15 AM to a regular session of the 75-meter ARES net. "I want to thank you all for helping your communities be prepared."

Northern Florida ARRL Section Manager Rudy Hubbard, WA4PUP, said Bush spoke from a portable station set up at a Daytona Beach-area fire station. At the request of ARES Volusia County Emergency Coordinator Joette Barnett, KG4HPN, John Schmidt, AF4PU, and Clifford Fraser, KE4HIY, arranged to have the station ready as a demonstration of Amateur Radio's role in emergency preparedness and in the hope that Bush would be willing to address the 75-meter net. Hearing the president check into the net was a pleasant surprise, Hubbard said.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was "extremely gratified" that President Bush recognized the valuable service Amateur Radio operators provide in times of emergencies. "I know that all hams in the United States stand ready to do their part in America's Homeland Security Program," Haynie commented. Haynie has said that defining Amateur Radio's role in homeland security would top his list of initiatives for his second term.

Hubbard said a copy of proposed expanded Amateur Radio antenna (PRB-1) legislation was given to the President and to the president's brother, Florida Gov Jeb Bush, for possible introduction in next year's Florida legislative session. "We Amateur Radio operators will volunteer however we're needed, and maybe it will be seen that we can greatly help the nation if we have the antennas we need," Hubbard commented. The proposed bill would seek to extend Florida's PRB-1 law to include private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions.

Bush's stop in Florida was part of a swing through the southeastern US, which also included stops in North Carolina and Georgia. The Daytona Beach event marked a rare appearance on ham radio by a sitting president. Former President Gerald Ford spoke via a ham radio satellite hookup in 1986.

ARRL FIELD DAY, Affiliated Club Competition Changes Announced

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 21, No. 5, February 1, 2002
and The American Radio Relay League

The ARRL has adopted rule changes affecting Field Day and the ARRL Affiliated Club Competition program. The primary Field Day change--effective with this year's event June 22-23--phases out the Novice-Technician station and replaces it with a new station category, the "Get-On-The-Air"--or GOTA--station.

A GOTA station is intended for operation by Novice and Technician operators or by generally inexperienced or inactive amateurs as well as by as-yet-unlicensed or "under-licensed" operators working under the privileges of a licensed control operator (third-party traffic rules apply--see the International Third Party Traffic page on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/io/3rdparty.html>>). Under the revised rules, any Class A Field Day entry operating at least two transmitters may include a GOTA station, which will not count as an additional transmitter for the purpose of entry category.

The GOTA station may operate on any Field Day band and mode, but only one GOTA transmitter may be in use at any given time. The GOTA station may complete up to 400 QSOs to be counted toward the group's total Field Day score. A Field Day group can claim 100 bonus points if its GOTA station successfully completes 400 QSOs. The GOTA station does not affect the additional VHF/UHF station provided under Field Day rule 4.1.2.

Field Day 2002 will mark the first in which stations throughout the Americas have been invited to participate. As approved at the July 2001 ARRL Board of Directors' meeting, all International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 countries--North and South America--may take part in Field Day starting this June.

Complete Field Day rules and information packet will be available on the ARRL Web Contest Forms and Rules page <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms>> in early February. Field Day 2002 pins and T-shirt may be ordered now via the ARRL Web catalog <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=&words=Field+Day+Pin>>.

Changes to the ARRL Affiliated Club Competition program also were included in the report of the Membership Services Committee (MSC), presented to the ARRL Board of Directors at its January meeting. In accordance with the advice of the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee, five specific affiliated club competition changes will go into effect November 1. Under the revised rules:

- The requirement that a member must attend at least two club meetings a year in order to be allowed to submit a score for a club in the unlimited and medium categories has been altered. The new rules will allow participation by "a member in good standing, as defined by the club."
- Medium and unlimited clubs now may define their club service area either as a 175-mile radius circle or as an entire ARRL section. This change will allow clubs from larger states that encompass entire ARRL sections to compete with each other.
- The percentage of operators who must be members of a club in order for the club to claim a score from a multi-operator station has been reduced from 66% to 50%.
- A station owner no longer must be a member of a club in order for a guest operator at the station to claim the score for that club.
- Canadian clubs that are full Radio Amateurs of Canada affiliates now may participate in the ARRL Affiliated Clubs Competition.

These changes affect ARRL contests that include a club competition--January VHF Sweepstakes, the ARRL International DX Contest, the September VHF Party, the ARRL November Sweepstakes, the ARRL 160-Meter Contest and the ARRL 10-Meter Contest.

Complete rules for all ARRL-sponsored operating events are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/>>. For more information, contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, n1nd@arrl.org.

ARRL Going To The Mat On 70-Cm Band Threat

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 21, No. 5, February 1, 2002
and The American Radio Relay League

ARRL officials met recently with FCC staff members as part of the League's effort to stave off a band threat on 70 cm. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, delivered an ex parte presentation to FCC Office of Engineering and Technology staffers on January 14. At issue was SAVI Technology's plan--already tentatively agreed to by the FCC--to deploy unlicensed transient RF identification devices between 425 and 435 MHz at much higher field strengths and duty cycles than Part 15 rules now permit for such devices. RFID tags are used to track and inventory parcel shipments.

"We told them that this was the worst possible choice of bands for these RFIDs," Imlay said. "Besides, there's no technical justification for that choice of frequencies." The request to use 70 cm has more to do with economics than technology, he said, because SAVI needs to bring down the cost of RFIDs in order to make a profit.

Imlay added that the ARRL would "do whatever it takes" to stave off the threat, including further direct appeals to FCC staff. The ARRL plans to file "strongly worded" comments on the SAVI petition by the February 12 comment deadline. Reply comments are due by March 12, 2002. Imlay said he was assured that SAVI's request "was not a done deal."

The FCC acted on the SAVI request last October in an FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (ET Docket 01-278). The ARRL argued in comments filed last March that the field strengths and duty cycles SAVI proposed for its RFID tags as Part 15 "periodic radiators" were unreasonable and "would undoubtedly seriously disrupt amateur communications in one of the most popular of the Amateur Service allocations," particularly for weak-signal enthusiasts.

The League also believes the FCC lacks the statutory authority to permit the RFID tags under its Part 15 rules in the configuration SAVI has requested. The ARRL argues that under the Communications Act of 1934, such devices with substantial interference potential must be licensed. The ARRL also has suggested that SAVI pick one of the Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) bands instead of 425-435 MHz.

The ARRL's January 14 ex parte presentation was complemented by an interference study prepared by ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, and ARRL Senior Engineer Zack Lau, W1VT. A copy of the interference study and more information is available on the ARRL Web site "Band Threats" page <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-1005/SaviExParte.pdf>>.

Announcement!!! Announcement!!! Announcement!!!

Herb, W3HL

At the February 28, CARC meeting, monies will be collected for a group purchase of pre-registration tickets for the Raleigh ARS Hamfest (April 14). Bring \$5 per ticket for us to send them in to have them available for the March meeting.

BTW, the pre-registration tickets for the Charlotte Hamfest are available for those participating in the group purchase.

Wayne C. Williams, K4MOB, SK

from <http://www.arrl.org>, "In Brief"

--submitted by Gary Pearce, KN4AQ

Wayne Williams, K4MOB, of Colfax, North Carolina, died February 12 after an extended illness. He was 65.

An ARRL member, Williams served from 1977 to 2000 as editor of the Southeastern Repeater Association's SERA Repeater Journal. As the proprietor of Williams Radio, Williams was a familiar presence on the hamfest and convention circuit in the southeastern US. Current Repeater Journal Editor Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, hailed Williams as a "driving force in SERA," the frequency-coordination body for eight southeastern states.

During his tenure as editor, Williams transformed the Repeater Journal from a newsletter to its current color-cover magazine format. "Through SERA, the Repeater Journal, and Williams Radio, a small business he operated at home and at hamfests, Wayne touched the lives of thousands of hams in the Southeast," Pearce said. "We'll miss him."

Williams' survivors include his wife, Gerry, KB4SEL, and two sons, Chris, W4CAW, and Wayne Jr (a third son, Gary, died in 2000).

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