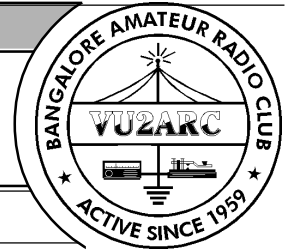


## BANGALORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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AUGUST 2004

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## OFFICE BEARERS

**Adhoc President :** VU2GGM Poru  
**Secretary :** VU3SXE Sundeep  
**Treasurer :** VU2GGM Poru  
**Joint Treasurer :** VU3JBA Soms  
**Committee Members :**  
VU3NOI Suresh  
VU2POP Pop  
VU3ICC Venky  
VU3BIP Vasudev  
VU3SPD Speed

## Silent Key VU2IR

OM Bindu went silent key on Sunday night at Manipal Hospital in Bangalore after he was admitted on Friday evening. He was active till Friday and gave a report to VU3SXE that he heard him on the ECHO satellite downlink. He later had QSO with him and VU2GUR too. He was a member of BARC, also a Costodian of BARC for a long time. Active "Radio Amateur" he liked to be called this way, with a lot of humor. A true HAM was active on VHF, UHF, HF and Satellites till his last. He encouraged a lot of youngsters in many ways. He will be missed by all of HAMDOM, specially in BANGALORE. Born on 11.02.1934, His achievements - President of Bangalore Amateur Radio Club - VU2ARC, Costodian of VU2ARC for a long time, Satellite Enthusiast would homebrew a lot of antennas for the birds. Of late Bindu was working on building PL tone to work the satellite which his rigs did not have to work the bird. Planning to build an arrow. All who knew him have sent their condolences. Messages came pouring as the news spread. It is difficult to carry all in this small News Letter.

## Arrow Workshop of AMSATINDIA

Arrow Workshop was held in Bangalore by Amsat India. It was held in the workshop of VU2GGM GIRMAJI EQUIPMENTS. These arrows are specially for satellite communication and can be used as a directional antenna too.

The Arrow Antenna workshop of AMSAT INDIA went as a huge project. It started from 10.00 AM in the morning and ended at around 6.45 in the evening with all nine mast mount antennas ready for the picture session and with just a half hour break for lunch. The workshop was attended and helped by around 25 hams and Swl's. The full workshop of GIRMAJI EQUIPMENTS was utilized. We also had the good assistance of one worker of Girmaji equipment Mr. Nagraj.

Amsat India had an informal meeting. Has also decided to have its next meeting at ISRO the coming month.

All assembled their own antenna including the 10 year old harmonic of VU2GGM Abhay who assembled the full antenna, which included grinding, filing, cutting, drilling, Gamma Match, Cable Soldering, etc.....

We had a great support of Dr. Giridhar (VU2MGD) Scientist of ISRO, Suresh (VU3NOI), Pratap (VU2POP), Jim (VU3JIM), Soms VU3JBA, VU3SRE OM Wasan,

GIRAMJI EQUIPMENTS which one day earlier had made clamps for all of us. The fantastic lunch was arranged by XYL of VU2GGM and her father and his YL Harmonic Deepa, Hema Shah XYL of VU3SXE also helped in making of the antenna. Many came in support of this exercise and visited the workshop of which VU3GFF & VU2QX, VU3RMS. The material bills were produced for ten antennas confirmed in advance and divided equally among ten and came to Rs 1100/-. (for international readers it was US \$ 24) The lunch was on the HOST GIRMAJI EQUIPMENTS.

Few hams also picked solar panels from Girmaji Equipments too available for sale.

The proud owners of the Arrow Antenna were, VU2QNY-Ismael, VU2MGD- Dr. Giridhar, VU3DON-Don, SWL-Abhay & VU2GGM, VU3SXE-Sundeep, VU3BIP-Vasudev, VU2WMY-Mani, VU3ATB-Srinivas, VU2JHM - absent, VU2CHR - absent.

There have been many requests from hams outside Bangalore in buying this antenna. Amsat India will work out some time later, if it can come up with any such requests and have a project in building antennas for others who are out of Bangalore or who cannot attend.

Amsat India brought this workshop to promote HomeBrewing.

For AMSAT INDIA-VU3SXE-Sundeep Shah. (PICTURE OF ARROW PAGE 4)

**Echo-AO-51 is working fine was heard loud and clear on the first contact between VU2MKP and VU3SXE, AmsatIndia workshop made Arrow Antenna was used for the downlink. kindly Note The freq is changed on downlink to 435.300-remains same on uplink-145.920. On Wednesday's echo will be on experiment mode. So the freq's will change.**

BARC meets every Second Sunday of the month at Bharat Scouts & Guides HQ, Fort, Bangalore.  
Next Monthly Meeting : 12th September , 2004

## UPASANA'S HEALTH

BARC thanks to all who responded to the appeal for charity, For the surgery of UPASANA one year nine months old baby.YL harmonic of VU3RUN Amitav Saha of Kolkota. There were lot of hams who went to meet the parents and UPASANA at the hospital and also who provided lot of logistic support to the cause. Specially AJOY VU2JHM,

VU3RUN is also on the VHF from his HOTEL on the repeater and Simplex as well, He is using a GP antenna, Upasana along with parents and Ajoy have visited the famous ISKON temple in Bangalore and offered prayers. Amitav is also felling like home in Bangalore. BARC wishes UAPSANA a speedy recovery. Upasana has made a special place in the hearts of Bangalore Hams, She will carry home a special relationship from Bangalore.

Donation for her operation have come from many parts of India and some from abroad. There was lot of discount bargained for her operation, It was overwhelming responce by Radio Amateurs, Many hams some with families



### UPASANA and VU2JHM before operation.

visited Upasana, Among them were VU2WMY his XYL and KID, VU3SXE & his XYL both families went with small gifts for upasana. VU2RO and VU2QNY has visited on many ocassions before and after the operation , Lot of help was provided by VU3BNH OM Umesh who got help for her blood requirement. Others who visited were VU2RCR, She was operated upon on tuesday 03.04.2004, It was a succesful operation as expected, Upasana has been doing fine since then. We from all members of BARC & families wish her a long and healthy life.

**International Beacon** Project Station OH2B Back on the Air Martin Harrison, G3USF, the IARU Region 1 HF Beacon Coordinator, reports that the OH2B beacon in Finland, one of the 18-strong stations in the world-wide five-band International Beacon Project network, has made a very welcome return to activity after an absence of two years. It has been heard in the UK during the past week on the IBP frequencies on 14100, 18110, 21150, 24930 and 28200kHz. Its operating schedule, and those of the other beacons in this network, can be found on page 100 of the current RSGB Yearbook.

### Radio Pioneer John Kraus, W8JK, a Silent Key

Well-known radio astronomer, antenna designer, cosmic explorer and author John D Kraus, W8JK, died on the 18th of July. He was 94 and reportedly was in failing health but alert to the end. While he enjoyed a world-wide reputation, Kraus is perhaps best known within the amateur radio community for his bi-directional wire beam antenna design, often dubbed the '8JK array'. Other important Kraus antenna designs include the corner reflector and the helix antenna, often used in

amateur satellite antennas as well as in commercial communications applications. He was a pioneer of radio telescope design and the father of the 'Big Ear' telescope which recorded the famous 'Wow!' signal in 1977. [ARRL news story.]



**Upasana & VU2RCR**

## New Amateur Satellite

On Friday the 30th of July, the Chairman of AMSAT-UK - Professor Sir Martin Sweeting, G3YJO - announced a new amateur transponder project to be launched as part of the European Space Agency SSETI Express satellite. Speaking at the opening of the 2004 AMSAT-UK Colloquium at the University of Surrey in Guildford, he expressed his delight that AMSAT-UK had been able to work with the ESA to provide, at very short notice, an S-band - 2.4GHz - transmitter. It is intended that the transmitter will be available for use as the downlink of a single-channel FM transponder. The 437MHz receiver is being provided to ESA by DF2FQ. These frequencies will enable the many amateurs who already have Oscar 40 equipment to use it in an exciting new way. The 2.4GHz downlink exciter, switched-mode power supply, control interfaces and power amplifier are being developed by Sam Jewell, G4DDK; David Bowman, G0MRF; Jason Flynn, G7OCD; and Charles Suckling, G3WDG, with Graham Shirville, G3VZV, assisting. It is intended that SSETI Express will be launched into a sun synchronous 680-kilometre orbit from Plestek in Russia in April 2005.

## ASSAM BIHAR FLOODS RELIEF

Mumbai Amateur Radio Society received an SOS call on 15/07/04 at 12.30 midnight from Mr Saroj Jha (Deputy Secretary ,National Centre of Disaster Management(NCDM) Ministry of Home Affairs Govt. of India, ex-A R R UNDP INDIA) to provide communications support in the floods affected area , Mumbai Amateur Radio Society (MARS) immediately responded and 5 members of MARS ARES Team were immediately mobilised. MARS ARES team headed by

## "Ground Zero" - Mock Drill

Disaster Communication Exercise carried out by Ham Radio Operators in the Mock Drill simulating an Earthquake at North East District of Delhi on August 04, 2004

Immediately after receiving the information from the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (Govt. of NCT) about an Earthquake (mock) hitting the North East District of Delhi, three teams of ham radio operators (volunteers) from various corners of Delhi (Rohini, Janakpuri and Vasant Kunj) rushed to the different critical locations for establishing emergency wireless communication links.

Assuming that all other conventional modes of communications were either clogged or completely disrupted, four (4) ham radio stations were established. The stations were established at the Office of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority, Divisional Commissioner's office (manned by VU2UKR, VU3FUN and VU2OB near ISBT), Police HQ (VU3BPA and VU3AKW in

front of ITO), Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP)-North East district (VU2VTH near Silampur Police Stations) and the Deputy Commissioner (North East District)'s office (VU2MUE at Nand Nagri). The ham radio volunteers were equipped with portable wireless equipment with mobile antennas, batteries and solar panel power backups.

Shri R. Narayanaswami, Principal Secretary (Home) came to the mock disaster site to take an account of the situation. While visiting the ham radio station at the DC's office, Shri R. Narayanaswami expressed his feeling that ham radio operators can play a very important role in disaster communication.

Shri S.K. Jha, ADM from the Divisional Commissioner's Office also visited the ham radio facility at DC's office and expressed his satisfaction at the functioning of the radio amateur's wireless emergency communication system in the mock disaster exercise on August 04, 2004.

A demonstration of Echolink (a system of hooking a terrestrial VHF HAM repeater station to the Internet for transmission of VHF radio messages over the Internet using VoIP technology) was also given to Shri Jha, ADM. Shri Rahul Srivastava, VU3WJM replied back from Lucknow to the team of emergency ham stations at Delhi via Echolink and Delhi VHF repeater. A demonstration of ham radio was given to the UNDP officials coming from different districts of Delhi.

**NILESH RATHOD - VU2NLF, & Pics ) thru digital mode (Digipan & SANDIP ADIWAREKAR - MMSSTV)**  
**VU2UGO, ARUN SINGH - VU3AUA, MILIND KORDE - VU2IZO and ANISH KORDE - VU2OZO** took the first available flight to Patna via New Delhi, from where they were airlifted by helicopter to various far flung submerged district. VU2NLF was operating from District Magistarte office Sitamarhi and VU2UGO & VU3AUA were operating from DIstrict Magistarte office Sheohar



The mumbai station recd the info (text

**UPASANA & VU2RO**

**Blind Operator** Becomes New Official GB2RS Newsreader  
 Now news about a new GB2RS newsreader. Annick Morris, MOHDE, of Wigan, Lancashire, became a GB2RS newsreader two weeks ago, when she read the news through the GB3MR repeater. What makes this special is that 18-year old Annick has been blind from birth. She has a purpose-built laptop computer which accepts Word files, and which has a single-line display consisting of raiseable dots which form characters in Braille. Annick can read Braille fast enough to read out loud from this, although she can only 'see' one character at a time. In the future Annick will be newsreading on 6 metres, 2 metres and 70 centimetres and it is hoped that she may also transmit on two bands at once.



## Men With Arrow

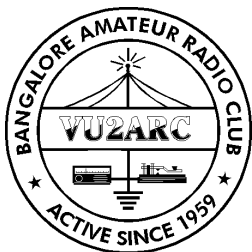


**BARC is planning to have Garden City Contest soon, It is to revive the old activities of the club, Lot of oldtimers are working on this plan, OM Bindu was also working on this plan in holding the contest some time in December.**

This is the Official Newsletter of Bangalore Amateur Radio Club-VU2ARC. This newsletter is strictly for private circulation among members only. Articles in this newsletter are compiled from contributions from the HAMs and publicly available information from various resources. Source if not mentioned may be assumed to that of origin of the source. Articles can be reproduced in any Amateur Radio related publication without prior permission. However, we request the publisher to give due credit to the source of the article.

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