

# WARC Newsletter

The Monthly Newsletter of the Wantagh Amateur Radio Club

July 2003

**Meeting Notice:** The next monthly meeting of the Wantagh Amateur Radio Club will be held at 8:00 P.M. on Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Wantagh Public Library.

**Agenda:** Field Day Report and Critique.

## Minutes of the June 13<sup>th</sup> General Meeting

Vince KD2EP, president, opened the meeting at 8:09 PM.

All club officers were present

The secretary, Bill N2RRX, accepted the minutes as read.  
Treasurer's Report: Chris KC2FBW reported \$407.71 in the treasury.

### FIELD DAY:

The following Topics were discussed:

Setup-additional volunteers needed.

Antennas to be used – Folded Dipole and Gap Vertical.

Power Cables – Additional heavy duty, 12/3 needed.

Generator – Will be transported by Ralph WP4KO.

Tent – will be provided by Vic K2IY.

Automobile canopy/shelter – purchased for the club by donations from some members, will be set-up near the trees.

*Continued on page 2*

## ARRL NYC/LI July E-happenings

ARRL NYC/LI July E-happenings Newsletter  
Written and Edited by George Tranos N2GA,  
ARRL Section Manager NYC/LI

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Welcome! This is the July edition of the NY City / Long Island "e-happenings" Section newsletter! This newsletter is here to serve the Amateur Radio community in our area. I welcome and encourage all submissions. Please help make this your newsletter!

I especially encourage officers of the area's Amateur Radio clubs to submit their meeting announcements, guest speakers and special events. Please submit any information for the August issue prior to the end of July.

### Section News

Section News is available ONLY on the world-wide-web. See the NLI site at:

<http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=NLI>

### HAPPENINGS

Field Day: Many Amateur Radio clubs throughout the section participated in Field Day on the weekend of June 28 and 29. Congratulations to each of you and the many clubs in the section that held field day this year! Your efforts to showcase the emergency preparedness aspect of Amateur Radio are appreciated.

I was able to visit 8 different field day sites this year. Joining me this year was ASM & SEC Tom Carrubba KA2D and ACC Phil Lewis N2MUN. I was able to also visit with ASM Len Battista W2FX, PIC Diane Ortiz

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** General Meeting Minutes
- 1** ARRL NYC/LI Information
- 6** Our New Canopy / Shelter (Update)
- 7** A Few Field Day Photos
- 8** ARRL – National Info

## MINUTES - continued from page 1

Trailer - Chris KC2FBW offered to use his trailer to provide transportation for heavy equipment. It was undecided whether to load on Thursday or Friday.

Take Down - WE NEED ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS for Sunday afternoon.

The Field Day committee has been meeting by using the conference feature of Echo Link, and will make additional decisions "on-the-air" as required.

We welcomed Phil WB2ZFG, a visitor to this meeting, who subsequently joined as a new member.

The meeting was closed at 9:20 PM. We then enjoyed coffee and conversation after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill N2RRX, Secretary

## July E-happenings - continued from page 1

K2DO and OOC Daniel Reisman NY2L.

I thank each club who welcomed us for their hospitality. You showcased the best of Amateur Radio with your superb planning, logistics and operations. Again, congratulations on a great Field Day!

Dianne Sherwood KB2PZR, sk. Dianne Sherwood KB2PZR became a silent key on June 16. She and her OM Dick Sherwood N2NGF were very active in the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club. A few years ago they bought a huge RV and toured the country - always coming back to LI for special events like Lighthouse weekend and Field Day. They were on their way up from Florida when Dianne had a stroke. A funeral mass was held in Babylon in June. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Sherwood family at this difficult time.

From Tom Carrubba KA2D, Section Emergency Coordinator: New York City: Public Service Events Data for May 2003:

Five Boro Bike Tour - Citywide (May 4th) 45 operators x 12 hours = 540 man/hours

Buckley Heroes Run - Brooklyn (May 18th) 10 operators x 5 hours = 50 man/hours

Memorial Day Run - Staten Island (May 26th) 6 operators x 3 hours = 18 man/hours

Staff Assignments (List Below a/o 4/30/2003)

DEC & EC SI	Charles Hargrove	N2NOV
EC Mn/Bx	John Kiernan	KE2UN
EC Bklyn	Adam Fine	AB2IZ
EC Qns	Charles Gallo	KC2IXE
AEC Mn	Ryan Jairam	AB2MH
AEC Bx	Joseph Carpentieri	KA2BRH
AEC Bklyn	Mike Lunetta	W2MPL
AEC Bklyn	Ken Shaw	N2KEN
AEC Qns	Charles Alfano	WA2GUG
OES Bx	Arte Booten	N2ZRC
OES Bklyn	Ivan Rodriguez	KC2CHE
OES Bklyn	Joseph Prego	N2ECR
OES SI	Allan Hobron	KC2DPP
OES SI	Joseph Nieves	N2TEE
OES SI	Ron Faup	WA2RF

Skywarn Basic Spotter class for NYC held on Friday May 30th at 7PM. - 45 attended class at St Vincent's Hospital on Staten Island. Kings County (from EC Adam Fine AB2IZ): Kings County ARES participated in the 5-Boro Bike Tour. Operators included: AB2IZ, KA2KDQ, KB2GEK, KB2SUR, B2TWY, KB2VDV, KC2BGT, KC2CBL, KC2EDR, KC2JXM, KD2AU, N2ECR, N2KEN, N2YBB, W2/8R1B, W2MPL. Also, Kings County ARES participated in the Buckley's to Kennedy's Hero's Run with operators: AB2IZ, KB2GEK, KB2SUR, KB2TWY, KC2CBL, KC2CHE, KC2HZQ, KC2JXM, W2/8R1B, W2MPL. Kings County ARES met on 05/28/03 - Topics discussed: Critiques concerning comms heard during 2 events in May, teamwork and

group/individual responsibility issues. In attendance: AB2IZ, KA2FXR, KA2KDQ, KB2SUR, KB2TWY, KB2VDV, KC2CBL, KC2EDR, KC2JXM, N2ECR, N2QXB, N2RGA, N2YBB, W2MPL, and WA2JNF.

After the meeting Kings County ARES gave a 10-minute presentation at the 70th Pct. Community Council meeting. The Presentation consisted of handouts put together by OES Joseph Prego, N2ECR and talk by myself, AB2IZ. It was well received.

Hope to continue to reach out to other Community Councils.

Nassau County:

Nassau ARES supported the Long Island Marathon on May 4th, with 40 operators. For the MAY meeting, ARES hosted the Advanced Skywarn Training on May 13th. Good participation in weekly county-wide net.

Suffolk County: Good participation in weekly county wide net.

The Town of Huntington in Suffolk County: John Allocca WB2LUA replaces Chuck Hartley N2JIY. Chuck had to step down due to business and family obligations

STM Claire WA2VZK reports the following:

1)NTS "section level" CW nets :

NYS/M 10am local time daily

NYS/E 7pm local time daily

NYS/L 10pm local time daily

All our "section level" cw nets meet on 3677 KHz .

2)NTS "section level" phone nets:

New York Phone (NYP) 1pm daily (currently meeting on 7237 KHz but usually meets on 3925 KHz during the winter months.)

New York Public Operations Net (NYPON) 5pm daily on 3913 KHz (alternate freq. 3925 KHz +/- QRM).

3)"Independent nets" which maintain close association with the NTS. Empire Slow Speed Net (ESS) 6pm daily on 3590 KHz .

Hit and Bounce Net (HBN) 8:30am daily on 7042 KHz .

Hit and Bounce Slow Net (HBSN) 7:30am daily on 3714 KHz (alternate freq. 7114 KHz).

New York City -Long Island cw net (NLI) 7:30pm Mon. through Fri. on 3630 KHz .

(all times listed are local eastern times)

4)The NTS "local nets" are:

Big Apple Net 8pm daily on 146.430 MHz

Nassau Co. VHF Net 7:30pm on 146.805 MHz (meeting irregularly at present).

Suffolk Co. VHF Net 8pm (Mon. through Thurs.) on 145.210 MHz.

The ARRL PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL

Month of May 2003

New York City/Long Island Section

Monthly qualifying total: 70 or more points

AB2IZ 488, WB2GTG 100, KB2KLH 100, N2AKZ 100, KE2SX 90, WA2YOW 83.

NTS Section or Local nets

Net Name	Abbrev	Sessions	QNI	QTC/QSP	Net Manager
NY State/morning/cw	NYS/M	29	140	54/39	KA2GJV
NY State/early/cw	NYS/E	31	264	166/157	WB2QIX
NY State/late/cw	NYS/L	31	219	200/160	W2YGW
NY Phone	NYP	31	176	262/262	N2LTC
NY Public Opr. Net	NYPON	31	384	132/128	N2YJZ
Empire Slow Speed net	ESS	31	404	0/70	WI2G
NYC-LI/cw	NLI	20	47	13/11	WA2YOW
Big Apple VHF	BAVHF	31	514	94/94	KB2KLH
Nassau Co. VHF	NCVHF	(*)			N2WGF
Suffolk Co. VHF	SCVHF	8	26	4/4	WA2VZK

(\*) report not received in time for this list

A service now allows those interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) course in the future to receive advance word of registration opportunities via e-mail. To take advantage, send an e-mail to [prereg@arrl.org](mailto:prereg@arrl.org). On the subject line, include the course name or number (eg, EC-00#). In the message body, include your name, call sign, e-mail address, and the month you want to start the course. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>> and the C-CE Links found there.

For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, <[dmiller@arrl.org](mailto:dmiller@arrl.org)>; 860-594-0340.

Congratulations to the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club for their official renewal as a Special Service Club. Through the work of its members, this club is recognized for its continued efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio and services to its community.

Kings County ARES has changed its meeting nights from the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month to the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. The time (7pm) and the location (UCP, 121 Lawrence Avenue) remain the same. 73, Adam Fine AB2IZ, EC Kings County Nassau ARC meets every Monday night @ 7:30 pm. The General meeting is the last Monday of the month at 8 pm. Contact is Lance Aue, KA2EJD, President @ [vze3db97@verizon.net](mailto:vze3db97@verizon.net) or see <http://www.nassauarc.org>

AIDS bicycle ride requests ham radio support. Hundreds of bicyclists will be pedaling from Niagara Falls to New York City for charity from August 18-23, 2003. It's called the Empire State AIDS Ride. It's a 500-mile trek. Some days they will be riding over 100 miles. You can read more about the ride and the beneficiaries (as well as donate, volunteer, ride or get your friends to donate/volunteer/ride) at:

<http://www.empirestateaidsride.org/> If you would like to join the discussion group specifically for Amateur Radio operators that will be helping out then send an email to: [EmpireHam03-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:EmpireHam03-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Submitted by Mark Wintle, W1NTL, <http://www.wintle.com/w1ntl/empire03/> or [MEW@gtsystems.com](mailto:MEW@gtsystems.com)

New ARES apparel available with "Amateur Radio Communications". The items are: 1. Orange reflective vest with "Amateur Radio Communications" on the back, \$9.95; 2. Blue windbreaker with ARES logo on the front and "Amateur Radio Communications" on the back, \$30.95 (can be personalized with name/call); and 3. Black equipment bag with ARES logo, \$24.95. To see these products, please visit <http://www.barkerspecialty.com/arrl/> and click on "ARES Products".

MetroCor is the new coordinating body for the New York City metropolitan area. See their website at <http://www.qsl.net/metrocor/>

Emil Tillona KD1F is the section DXCC card checker and is available for field checking of QSL cards for your DXCC Award. If interested, please contact Emil at [etillona@interserv.com](mailto:etillona@interserv.com)

Section VE Sessions - available on the web at: <http://hudson.arrl.org/nli/nlive.htm>

#### UPCOMING Club Events

NOTE! Please CHECK with the clubs listed below to verify that the events listed will take place. Many clubs do NOT hold meetings during the summer months. For your convenience, please double-check all meetings prior to going to avoid an unnecessary trip!

Grumman ARC will hold a VE session on Tuesday, July 1, at 5 PM, at Underwriters Lab in Melville, NY. Contact Bob Wexelbaum, W2ILP for more information or to pre-register at (631) 499-2214 or via e-mail [w2ilp@juno.com](mailto:w2ilp@juno.com)

The Kings County Repeater Association's (KCRA) monthly VE exam will be held on Tuesday, July 1, at the Guild for Exceptional Children, 260 68th Street, Brooklyn, NY at 7 P.M. Pre-register with Harvey (KB2EA) at 718-948-2290 or Ed (W2SN) at 718-833-7120. See <http://www.kcra.org>

American Red Cross Emergency Communications Service club meeting on Thursday, July 3, at 7:30 PM at 138-02 Queens Blvd, 1st Floor, Briarwood, New York 11435. Contact Lenny Smith N2LDV at [N2LDV@yahoo.com](mailto:N2LDV@yahoo.com).

Nassau County Police ARC will have a meeting on Thursday, Thursday, July 3, at 7:30 pm at Long Beach Auxiliary Police Headquarters. Contact George WB2GTC at [GeorgegeeG@aol.com](mailto:GeorgegeeG@aol.com) or <http://www.qsl.net/kb2uyp/> for more info.

Peconic ARC monthly meeting is Friday, July 4, at the Southold Public Library in Southold at 6:30 pm. See <http://www.peconic-arc.org> or contact Roberta Keis N2RBU at 631-722-4060 for directions.

Nassau County ARES meeting will be held at the Red Cross Chapter at 195 Willis Avenue Mineola, at 7:30 pm, on Tuesday, July 8. For more info, contact Nassau DEC George Gluck WA2WKV at [wa2wkv@arrl.net](mailto:wa2wkv@arrl.net)

HOSARC Monthly Meeting is Tuesday, July 8, in Queens at 8 pm. Meetings are held at the New York Hall of Science Museum cafeteria, 47-01 111th Street, Flushing Meadow, Corona Park, Queens NY. Please enter the cafeteria through the back science playground behind the museum. See their website at <http://www.qsl.net/hosarc> or call 718-760-2022.

LIMARC does not hold monthly meetings during the summer. Their next regular monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, September 10, in Hicksville at 8 pm. The meetings are held at Levittown Hall, 201 Levittown Parkway, Hicksville, NY 11801. See <http://www.limarc.org>

The Kings County Repeater Association (KCRA) will hold its regular monthly "Non-meeting Meeting" (social night) on Thursday, July 10, at the Guild for Exceptional Children, 260 68th Street, Brooklyn, NY at 6:30 P.M. See <http://www.kcra.org>

Larkfield ARC regular monthly meeting is Thursday, July 10, in Huntington at 7:30 pm. E-mail [n2nki@arrl.net](mailto:n2nki@arrl.net) or see <http://www.larkfield.org>  
Knickerbocker Amateur Radio Club meeting will be on Thursday, July 10, in Port Washington. Contact Joe K2KYQ at [jreekie@wawnc.org](mailto:jreekie@wawnc.org) for more information.

Wantagh ARC monthly meeting is Friday, July 11 at 8 pm at Wantagh Library. Please contact Vic Panzica K2IY at [vpantzica@optonline.net](mailto:vpantzica@optonline.net) or [www.qsl.net/w2va](http://www.qsl.net/w2va) for more information.

Larkfield ARC will hold a VE Session on Saturday, July 12, 2003 at 9 am at the Huntington Town Hall, 100 Main Street, Room 114 (Entrance on Jackson Ave), Huntington, NY. Contact: Stanley Mehlman (631) 423-7132.

The Columbia University ARC VE Team 2002 will hold a VE exam on Monday, July 14 at 612 West 115th Street, New York, NY 10025 at 6:00 pm. Pre-register by calling  
Alan N2YGK at 212-854-3754 or [alan@columbia.edu](mailto:alan@columbia.edu)

Suffolk County RC Monthly Meeting is Tuesday, July 15 in Bohemia at 8 pm. The meeting site is the Bohemia Recreation Center on Ruzicka Way, in Bohemia. Contact Les KB2ZHF at [Leskb2zhf@aol.com](mailto:Leskb2zhf@aol.com) or call 631-399-4041 or see their webpage at <http://members.tripod.com/~parasca/index/scrc.html>

Kings County Repeater Association (KCRA) will hold a regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 15 at The Guild for Exceptional Children, 260 68th Street, Brooklyn, starting at 7 PM. See <http://www.kcra.org>

KCRC monthly meeting is Wednesday, July 16, at the Ryan's Visitor Center, Floyd Bennett Field, Room A, in Brooklyn at 7:30 pm See <http://www.qsl.net/kcrc/>

The Long Island DX Association will not be meeting until September. They are taking their July/August summer hiatus (the first meeting of the new season will be on September 19). Contact Marty Miller NN2C, President of the LIDXA, at [mmiller4@optonline.net](mailto:mmiller4@optonline.net). See the Web at <http://www.qsl.net/lidxa/> for more information.

Manhattan & Bronx ARES meeting will be on Thursday, July 17 at 7:30 PM at Red Cross HQ, 150 Amsterdam Avenue (66th Street). Contact John KE2UN at [ke2un@arrl.net](mailto:ke2un@arrl.net) for info.

The monthly Queens County ARES meeting will be Sunday, July 20 at 2:00 pm at Elmhurst General Hospital, 79-01 Broadway, Queens in conference room A1-15. The meeting topic is to be determined. New Members welcome. Please Contact Queens Emergency Coordinator Charles Gallo at [Charlie@TheGallos.com](mailto:Charlie@TheGallos.com)

Kings County ARES meeting is on the Wednesday, July 23 at 7 PM at UCP, 121 Lawrence Avenue, between Ocean Parkway and Seton Place in Kensington, Brooklyn. For info, call Adam Fine AB2IZ at 917-804-3380.

Radio Central ARC monthly meeting is Wednesday, July 23 at the New Village Rec Center in Centereach at 7:30 pm. See <http://www.rcarc.org>

Nassau ARC Monthly Meeting is Monday, July 28 in Eisenhower Park in East Meadow at the Senior Citizen's Center at 8 pm. Nassau ARC meets every Monday night @ 7:30 pm. The General meeting is the last Monday of the month at 8 pm. All are welcome. Contact

Lance Aue, KA2EJD, President at [yze3db97@verizon.net](mailto:yze3db97@verizon.net) or see <http://www.nassauarc.org>

GSBARC Monthly meeting is Thursday, July 31 at 8:00 PM at the Babylon Town Hall EOC, 200 East Sunrise Hwy, North Lindenhurst. For more information, see <http://www.gsbarc.org>

NLI Webpage: The Section Webpage contains LOTS of great information on section happenings, VE session, Education, Clubs, section staff, and much more! See <http://hudson.arrl.org/nli>

Please contact the webmaster, Tom Carrubba KA2D ([ka2d@arrrl.net](mailto:ka2d@arrrl.net)) to add events or other things to this page. NLI Section News is available at <http://www.arrrl.org/sections/?sect=NLI>

That's about it for this month! Please help make this newsletter even more interesting and informative by sending me news about YOUR club and events.

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NLI Section e-happenings

Section Manager - George Tranos N2GA ([n2ga@arrrl.org](mailto:n2ga@arrrl.org))

Assistant Section Managers

NLI - Tom Carrubba KA2D ([ka2d@arrrl.net](mailto:ka2d@arrrl.net))

New York City - Rob Todaro N1XL

Nassau County - Norm Wesler K2YEW ([k2yew@arrrl.net](mailto:k2yew@arrrl.net))

Suffolk County - Len Battista W2FX ([w2fx@arrrl.net](mailto:w2fx@arrrl.net))

Digital Communications - John Blowsky KB2SCS ([kb2scs@arrrl.net](mailto:kb2scs@arrrl.net))

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ARRL New York City-Long Island Section

Section Manager: George A. Tranos, N2GA

[n2ga@arrrl.org](mailto:n2ga@arrrl.org)

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This message is being sent to you via the ARRL Members Only Web site.

If you do not want to receive further messages, go to the site at:

<http://www.arrrl.org/members-only/memdata.html?modify=1>

Log in with your username and password and change your email options.

Unchecking the "Division/Section notices" box will prevent messages

such as this one from being sent to you. -- [webmaster@arrrl.org](mailto:webmaster@arrrl.org)

## **Our New Canopy (Update)**

So, how well did it work on Field Day? To quote Dan, KB2HTB, "The canopy was excellent, worked out well, and was easy to put up and take down. Plus it was the focal point of the site". Initially the canopy was setup with all four sides in place, secured to the poles, then rolled-up open on two ends to allow a good flow of fresh air. Later in the afternoon, Chris, KC2FBW raised the remaining side panels about 45° and guyed them to the ground with thin poles, ropes and stakes, giving additional room for participants to sit, while allowing maximum protection from the sun, and from rain if it had occurred.

Frank, N2RSO



## Field Day Photos - Provided by Ralph, WP4KO









# The ARRL Letter of June 27, 2003

RE-XMTAL OF:

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The ARRL Letter

Vol. 22, No. 26

June 27, 2003

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## IN THIS EDITION:

- \* +ARRL becomes Citizen Corp affiliate
- \* +Morse treaty requirement on the way out
- \* +Hams help fire fighting efforts in US Southwest
- \* +California antenna bill passes Senate
- \* +Oregon's Section Manager recalled
- \* +Bogus QST solicitor on the loose
- \* First Cuba-US Field Day operation announced
- \* Solar Update
- \* IN BRIEF:

This weekend on the radio

Attention clubs participating in Field Day 2003!

New Field Day Class F still attracting questions

+Western Washington gets new Section Manager

No joy for New York ham antenna bills

ARRL's 2002 Annual Report is available

Correction

+Available on ARRL Audio News

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NOTE: ARRL Headquarters is closed on Independence Day: ARRL Headquarters will be closed Independence Day, Friday, July 4. There will be no W1AW bulletin or code practice transmissions on July 4 nor any editions of The ARRL Letter or ARRL Audio News. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Monday, July 7, at 8 AM EDT. The ARRL Letter and ARRL Audio News will return Friday, July 11. Have a safe and enjoyable Independence Day holiday!

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## ==>AMATEURS "FIRST OF THE FIRST RESPONDERS," DHS OFFICIAL SAYS

ARRL now is an official affiliate program of Citizen Corps <<http://www.citizencorps.gov>>, an initiative within the Department of Homeland Security <<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/>> to enhance public preparedness and safety. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, signed the formal Statement of Affiliation between DHS and ARRL during the ARRL 2003 National Convention June 21. Chief Operating Officer of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate (FEMA) Ron Castleman represented Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response Michael D. Brown at the signing. Citizen Corps Liaison to the White House Liz DiGregorio called ham radio operators the "first of the first responders."

"You are there. You are part of that very, very first response when it happens locally," especially in the initial stages of an emergency or disaster, DiGregorio told an overflow audience. She urged amateurs to explore ways to expand their role in the community beyond being the last resort when other communication systems fail. "You need to show your community that you're engaged," she said. "They need to know as a community that ARRL is there."

Castleman said his agency really needs Amateur Radio's help. "Hams have a long and distinguished history of assisting and cooperating with FEMA," he said. He said FEMA wants to continue to work with Amateur Radio operators as partners and expand hams' community safety role. "We also want to help prepare every citizen across our country before disaster strikes," Castleman said.

The League joins the National Safety Council, Points of Light Foundation, National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, National Volunteer Fire Council, National Fire Protection Association, Save A Life Foundation and The Jaycees as Citizen Corps affiliate programs.

The SoA calls on DHS and ARRL to raise public awareness of Amateur Radio as a safety resource. "That's what you are all about, and we need a safer America," DiGregorio said.

In addition, DHS and ARRL will cooperate in providing training and accreditation for Amateur Radio emergency communications. They also will work together to promote the formation of local Citizen Corps councils and assist them with education, training and volunteer service opportunities "that support first responders, disaster relief organizations and community safety efforts." As an affiliate, ARRL will be linked from the FEMA and Citizen Corps Web sites.

"We need you, and you need us, and we want to work together with you to make this all happen," DiGregorio concluded, "because we all share the same goal, and that goal is a better, stronger, more secure America."

The ARRL National Convention 2003 was held in conjunction with Ham-Com <<http://www.hamcom.org>> in Arlington, Texas. FEMA announced the SoA signing on its Web site <[http://www.fema.gov/nwz03/nwz03\\_138.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/nwz03/nwz03_138.shtm)>.

#### ==>NO MORSE CODE CONTROVERSY AT WRC-03

Whatever else happens at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03), there's no mystery about the delegates' direction regarding the Morse code requirement. Morse code proficiency will disappear as a treaty obligation for high-frequency access when the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)-sponsored gathering under way in Geneva concludes July 4.

"One matter on which there appears to be no disagreement is the Morse requirement," said International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary (and ARRL CEO) David Sumner, K1ZZ, in a report <<http://www.iaru.org/rel030623.html>> on the second week of activity at WRC-03. "It is clear that the outcome will be to leave it to administrations' discretion whether or not to have a Morse receiving and sending requirement." He said no administration participating in the sub-working group spoke in favor of retaining the Morse code treaty requirement.

The modification of Article 25.5 of the international Radio Regulations cleared Working Group 4C on June 24. Working Group 4C is dealing with this and other proposals relating to Article 25. The modified text says, "Administrations shall determine whether or not a person seeking a license to operate an amateur station shall prove the ability to send and receive texts in Morse code signals."

It's possible but unlikely that the text would be tinkered with further at the committee level or even in the Plenary, which considers items for adoption. Sumner said delegates continue to wrangle over other aspects of Article 25, which defines Amateur Radio operation.

Adoption of the Article 25.5 modification would not mean the immediate disappearance of the Morse requirement to operate on the amateur bands below 30 MHz. Each administration, including the FCC, would then decide whether or not to drop the requirement from its domestic regulations. Some countries have indicated a desire to retain a Morse code requirement.

Sub-working groups this week funneled their reports to larger working groups assigned to tackle various pieces of the huge WRC-03 agenda. More than 2600 delegates and other participants are attending the four-week conference. For WRC-03, the IARU has fielded its largest team of observers at an ITU conference in more than a decade.

There's less consensus on efforts to secure a "harmonized" 300-kHz-wide amateur allocation at 7 MHz. Sumner said initial discussions in Sub-Working Group 4C1 "were spirited and reflected sharp differences of opinion" between those advocating realignment and those favoring no change out of deference to the disruption that any realignment would cause broadcasting services now occupying 7.1 to 7.3 MHz in Regions 1 and 3, and the fixed services above 7.3 MHz that would be affected by any upward shift in broadcasting. Amateurs in the US and the rest of Region 2 enjoy a 300-kHz allocation from 7.0 to 7.3 MHz, but hams in the rest of the world, Regions 1 and 3, have only 7.0 to 7.1 MHz.

Three alternative proposals have been passed on to Working Group 4C. "The largest group favored realignment in two stages," Sumner explained. That group included the US, CEPT, CITEL and the African Telecommunications Union. The two steps would expand the band in Regions 1 and 3 by 100 kHz in 2007 and add the remaining 100 kHz in 2015. Other plans put forth contained longer time lines. By week's end, Sumner said, the issue could be passed on to Committee 4 and then to the Plenary, where items

need two readings for ultimate WRC-03 approval.

The issue of an allocation for satellite-borne synthetic aperture radars (SARs) in the 70-cm band (432-438 MHz) also appears well on the way to resolution. "While it appears very likely that there will be an allocation, it will be secondary," Sumner explained.

Full reports on WRC-03 activities are available on the IARU Web site <<http://www.iaru.org/news-releases.html>>.

#### ==>AMATEURS RESPOND TO SOUTHWESTERN FIRES

Amateurs in the vicinity of Sandoval County, New Mexico, had just wrapped up an activation to support emergency communication for personnel fighting the Virgin Mesa fire about 50 miles north of Albuquerque when they were notified to stand by for yet another fire right in the city. Meanwhile, hams in Arizona remain ready to aid the fight to douse the huge Aspen Fire north of Tucson. The Arizona fire is considered too dangerous for amateur volunteers, however.

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers in New Mexico activated to assist in the Virgin Mesa fire were released at midday June 24 and replaced by a Type 2 Forest Team, said Sandoval County District Emergency Coordinator Mike Scales, K5SCA. Hams could be called back in, however, if the fire blows up again. Fire officials in New Mexico have ruled the Virgin Mesa fire--burning since June 22--to have been human-caused. Some 200 firefighters were working the blaze, and no homes or developments were threatened.

Aided by three members of the Los Alamos ARES team, Sandoval County hams set up at the Incident Command post at the La Cueva Fire Station, said Sandoval County ARES member Jay Miller, WA5WHN. Traffic was coordinated through a 2-meter repeater in Rio Rancho. A number of hams were deployed as fire-spotters and to support operating fire units.

On June 24, a fire that broke out in a wooded area--called the Bosque--in the Albuquerque area caused some 600 residents to be evacuated and left an estimated 16,000 people without power. Some 20 Sandoval County ARES members stood by to assist Bernalillo County ARES if needed, Miller said. The City of Albuquerque was able to handle the blaze, which destroyed an upscale home under construction.

North of Tucson, Arizona, progress was made this week to contain the Aspen Fire, which has destroyed more than 250 homes--and possibly more--since it broke out June 17. At mid-week, fire officials said the blaze was 25 percent contained. More than 1200 firefighters and support personnel are at the scene.

ARRL Arizona Section Manager Cliff Hauser, KD6XH, said that Arizona ARES and RACES teams remain on-call, but that there is currently no organized Amateur Radio effort to support of the firefighters.

"Fire fighting officials indicate that at this point it is still too dangerous in the fire's vicinity for Amateur Radio operators or other untrained volunteers to assist," Hauser explained. Hauser also pointed out that high winds have been causing the massive fire to spread in sporadic and unpredictable ways.

Chuck Smallhouse, W7CS, reports that he and several other amateurs supported the Type I fire team brought in to contain and control the Aspen Fire. In addition to Smallhouse, the team included Chuck Michels, KB7RFI; Norm Martin, K7OLD; John Henderson, K7FCC; and John Glenn, K7RJR. "These hams took off their Amateur Radio caps at the door and donned fire team ones," Smallhouse said. He said the hams were needed to provide vital communications support to the just-arrived skeleton crew until the professionals showed up.

Lost in the Arizona forest fire was the Cactus Intertie System's repeater equipment. The towers and repeaters were located very close to where the fire got its start atop Mount Lemmon. Also burned was the Zia Connection site, some 150 yards up the ridge from the Cactus site.

#### ==>CALIFORNIA ANTENNA BILL MOVES CLOSER TO GOVERNOR'S DESK

California's latest effort to pass an Amateur Radio antenna bill--Assembly Bill 1228--this week passed the state Senate on a unanimous 38-0 vote. Sponsored by freshman Assemblymember Bob Dutton (R-63rd), the bill received unanimous approval April 10 in the California Assembly on a 67-0 vote. It now returns to the Assembly for its approval of minor wording changes made in the Senate. Given the prior unanimous vote, Dutton's office expects Assembly approval to be routine, however. "Certainly the people seem to be speaking here," said ARRL staff member and antenna expert Dean Straw, N6BV, who lives in San Francisco. "Perhaps Gov Davis should be alerted that there are 100,000 Amateur Radio operators in California--and that we are also voters, should there be a recall campaign." An effort under way to recall Gov Gray Davis, a Democrat, is said to be gaining ground.



The California legislature approved a nearly identical PRB-1 measure three years ago, but Davis vetoed it, because funds for required studies were not included in his budget. The new bill carries no price tag.

ARRL Southwestern Division Director Art Goddard, W6XD, expressed elation at the measure's unanimous California Senate vote. "That's a vote of appreciation and confidence for Amateur Radio in California," he said. ARRL Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, spoke at an April 2 Assembly hearing on AB 1228. Dutton's office has recommended that amateurs who urge Davis to sign the bill stress its emergency communication benefits to the state, which has, by far, the largest number radio amateurs of any other state and nearly 15 percent of US total.

AB 1228 would incorporate the language of PRB-1 into the statutes of California. It would require any ordinance regulating Amateur Radio antenna structures not to preclude but to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communications, to allow amateur station antenna structures "at heights and dimensions sufficient to accommodate Amateur Radio Service communications" and to constitute "the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the legitimate purpose of the city or county."

Senate-added language that the Assembly must now approve declares that the Legislature's intent in enacting the bill is to "codify in state law the provisions of specified federal regulations relating to amateur radio station facilities."

To date, 19 states have incorporated the essence of PRB-1 into their laws.

#### ==>OREGON SECTION MANAGER RECALLED IN RARE SPECIAL ELECTION

For only the third time in League history, an ARRL Section Manager has been removed from office through a recall election. The audited vote to oust freshman Oregon Section Manager Marshall D. Johnson, KK7CW, of Albany, was 939 to 280, with eight invalid ballots. Members were asked to vote "yes" to recall Johnson and "no" to retain him. Ballots were counted June 24 at ARRL Headquarters, and the election tally was verified by a certified public accountant. Oregon's SM since last July 1, Johnson was recalled pursuant to the provisions of By Law 24 and Rule 5(g) of the ARRL Field Organization. The position is now vacant until a successor is appointed by ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, K1STO.

According to the ARRL By Laws, a Section Manager removed through a recall election or by action of the Executive Committee may not run in the next election following removal from office.

The last time an ARRL Section Manager was recalled was just over five years ago in 1998, when ARRL members in the New York City-Long Island Section voted to recall Section Manager Leonard Buonaiuto, then KE2LE. The first SM to be recalled was former Vermont SM Frank Sutor, W1CTM, in January 1990.

#### ==>LEAGUE WARNS OF BOGUS QST SOLICITATIONS

Someone has been attempting to sell "subscriptions" to QST, but it's not the ARRL. ARRL Customer Service/Circulation Manager Kathy Capodicasa, N1GZO, reports she's received several telephone calls and e-mails from members reporting the scam.

"Apparently, there is some kind of bogus telephone solicitor out there trying to get people's names, addresses and credit card numbers," she said. "ARRL does not solicit for 'subscriptions' to QST." She warned that under no circumstances should a member give out a credit card number to someone trying to sell them QST over the telephone.

As the official membership journal of the ARRL, QST is not available to the general public from a magazine distributor or outside publishing house. Capodicasa advises those getting calls from the phony solicitor to try to get the solicitor's name and to check the caller ID box, if they have one, to obtain the caller's number. She requested that members share any such information with her via e-mail to [n1gzo@arrl.org](mailto:n1gzo@arrl.org) or telephone, 860-594-0257.

#### ==>FIRST JOINT CUBA-US FIELD DAY OPERATION SET

Members of the Piña Colada Contest Club (KP2AA) will join forces with the Federación de Radioaficionados de Cuba in the first-ever joint Cuba-US Field Day operation June 28-29. Operating as CO0US (and T42FD for the "Get On The Air" newcomer station), the team will operate from a location near Havana (Grid EL83) on 80 through 2 meters. Commemorative QSLs recognizing the two countries' common interest in emergency communication preparedness and international goodwill through Amateur Radio will be available via K7JA (include an SASE or SAE and other return postage). Participating Cuban operators will include Arnie Coro, CO2KK. Chip Margelli, K7JA, will be among the US operators. "All the operators and support people look forward to making as many QSOs as possible and testing our ability to provide a wide-area emergency communications link throughout the duration of Field Day," Margelli said.

This marks the second year that Field Day welcomes participation by stations throughout International Amateur Radio Union Region 2—the Americas. Operators outside the US and Canada exchange operating class and "DX" as their "section" designator. No signal reports need be exchanged during ARRL Field Day, which begins at 1800 UTC June 28 and ends 2100 UTC June 29. Complete rules are on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2003/rules-fd-2003.htm--Chip>>.— Chip Margelli, K7JA

#### ==>SOLAR UPDATE

Solar seer Tad "The Sun Ain't Gonna Shine Anymore" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports:

This week had somewhat quieter geomagnetic conditions compared to the previous week, but average daily solar flux was down a bit and average daily sunspot numbers remained about the same. Recent projections anticipate no truly quiet periods ahead.

ARRL Field Day is this weekend, and I wish the geomagnetic conditions could be better. The predicted planetary A index for Friday through Monday is 20, 25, 20 and 20. Although an A index of 25 for Saturday doesn't look very promising, this prediction is made several days prior, and like weather forecasts, the real conditions could be different. In addition, a planetary A index of 20 or 25 doesn't guarantee a radio blackout on the high frequencies.

Sunspot numbers for June 19 through 25 were 108, 121, 118, 94, 104, 131, and 115, with a mean of 113. 10.7 cm flux was 122.9, 116.9, 115, 110.2, 113.5, 114.5, and 116.3, with a mean of 115.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 18, 12, 23, 16, 20, 31, and 19, with a mean of 19.9.

#### ==>IN BRIEF:

\* This weekend on the radio: ARRL Field Day <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2003/rules-fd-2003.html>>, the Marconi Memorial HF Contest, the QRP ARCI Milliwatt Field Day and the His Majesty the King of Spain Contest (SSB) are the weekend of June 28-29. JUST AHEAD: The RAC Canada Day Contest is July 1. The Michigan QRP July 4th CW Sprint is July 4-5. The Venezuelan Independence Day Contest (SSB/CW), the DL-DX RTTY Contest and the DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest are the weekend of July 5-6. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/>> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>> for more info.

\* Attention clubs participating in Field Day 2003! ARRL asks clubs taking part in ARRL Field Day 2003 June 28-29 to share their Field Day tips and setup strategies with other clubs. Send items to Margie Bourgoïn, KB1DCO <[kb1dco@arrl.org](mailto:kb1dco@arrl.org)>. This is your chance to claim bragging rights as well as to confess the ways that Murphy has graced your carefully-planned efforts! Also, visit the Club Companion Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/>> and check out "Our Club's Field Day" to see what other clubs are doing.

\* New Field Day Class F still attracting questions: ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, says he's still getting questions from clubs and groups planning to operate under the new Class F category in Field Day. The most popular of ARRL's operating events, Field Day takes place June 28-29. Henderson advises that unless clubs and individual operators have recently updated their logging software to accept Class F as a valid class, they may run into problems. "If this happens to your group," he said, "take manual notes about any problems and correct the log after Field Day, but before submitting it to the ARRL." Henderson says most questions he's been getting already are covered in the Field Day rules <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2003/rules-fd-2003.html>> and in the list of frequently asked questions, which is part of the Field Day packet <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/03fdpack.pdf>> (scroll down to Class F Station FAQs for information on that class). More than 1.4 million contacts were logged during Field Day 2002. Class F stations operate from an established emergency operations center (EOC) activated by a club or non-club group. Class F operation must take place from an established EOC site. Stations may utilize equipment and antennas temporarily or permanently installed at the EOC. A station may not enter Class F if operating from a mobile communications van deployed from an EOC, however. Those entries will be Class A or Class C (mobile), depending on the circumstances. An EOC is operated by a federal, state, county, city or other civil government, agency or administrative entity or by a chapter of a served agency (such as the Red Cross or Salvation Army) with which your local group has an established operating arrangement. Class F operation must take place in cooperation with the staff of the EOC being activated. The W1AW Field Day bulletin schedule is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/w1aw-fd-sked-2003.html>>. For additional Field Day information or questions contact the ARRL Contest Branch <[contests@arrl.org](mailto:contests@arrl.org)> or call 860 594-0232.

\* Western Washington gets new Section Manager: Veteran ARRL Western Washington Section Manager Harry Lewis, W7JWJ, is stepping down as of July 1. Assistant Section Manager Ed Bruette, N7NVP, of Poulsbo--the only candidate who had filed to succeed Lewis in the fall--will fill the remaining three months of Lewis's term. ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, announced Lewis's early departure and Bruette's nomination June 26. "Your work as Section Manager for more than a dozen years has touched many people for the good of Amateur Radio," White said in praise of Lewis's tenure as SM. A ham since the 1940s,

Lewis has served as Western Washington Section Manager since January 1991. Lewis will continue as Technical Coordinator. He had indicated earlier this year that he would not seek another term as SM, and Bruette was running unopposed for the Section Manager's seat. Lewis's wife, former Northwestern Division Director Mary Lewis, W7QGP, also is leaving her current post as a Western Washington Assistant Section Manager. Bruette has been an ASM since January 2003 and was Section Emergency Coordinator from 1998 through 2002. He is also the Washington State RACES officer.

\* No joy for New York ham antenna bills: ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, reports no success in the third effort to get a ham radio antenna bill through the New York Legislature. The current session wrapped up June 19. "Thanks for your support, but we were not successful," Fallon said in a statement to his Division. "We have a very difficult project here." The bills--A2662 in the Assembly and S63 in the Senate--were introduced in January. The bills went beyond simply incorporating the limited federal preemption, PRB-1, into state law. They would have prohibited municipalities from passing laws or ordinances to "restrict antenna support structure height to less than 95 feet above ground level or restrict the number of antenna support structures." Fallon noted that other states have been able to get antenna bills enacted, but very few of them include minimum regulatory heights. Fallon said the Hudson Division leadership remains committed to securing passage of a bill in both New York and New Jersey that specifies a height below which local governments may not regulate. Fallon said this session's bills died for lack of action, despite visits to the capital in Albany during the past two weeks of the session to meet personally with key lawmakers. "The legislature was very distracted this year with other issues and problems," Fallon said. That included the arrest of a key aide to Speaker of the House Sheldon Silver days before the session ended. "We are disappointed but not discouraged," Fallon concluded. "We will be working on gaining additional support between now and next January, when the next session opens."

\* ARRL's 2002 Annual Report is available: The League's 2002 Annual Report is currently available to members free of charge upon request. The report offers an overview of League activities for the year, messages from ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, and Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, along with ARRL's complete audited financial statements for 2002. Send requests--including your name, call sign and mailing address--to Media Relations Manager Jennifer Hagy, N1TDY, [jhagy@arrl.org](mailto:jhagy@arrl.org). Due to the large number of requests for the 2002 Annual Report, individual replies to everyone who e-mailed may not be possible. All requests will be honored in the order they were received at ARRL Headquarters. The report also is available on-line as a PDF document <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/annualreport/02ar.pdf>>.

\* Correction: The story "Ham's Ticket Set Aside as FCC Investigates Allegations of False Distress Calls" in The ARRL Letter, Vol 22, No 25 (Jun 20, 2003) contained some erroneous information. FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth explains that the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau set aside Michael V. Swift's license grant for KG6QOB was set aside and his application has reverted to pending status while the investigation continues. The WTB has a 30-day window to set aside a license grant on its own motion, Hollingsworth explained, although the Universal Licensing System indicates Swift's ticket was canceled May 29.

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