
B.V.A.R.A. QRM

W3SGJ

August 2002

144.710/145.310 MHZ - 100 HZ PL

447.975/442.975 MHZ - 100 HZ PL

B.V.A.R.A. OFFICERS

PRESIDENT.....KB3EAQ Debbie Mehutcs
1.V.PRES.....N3GZZ Joe Streit
2.V.PRES.....N3OJN Stan Riffle
SECRETARY...N3SVM Bob Reid
TREASURER...N3ALS Wes Morar

TRUSTEES/DIRECTORS

KB3EAQ.....Debbie Mehutcs
N3GZZ.....Joe Streit
N3OJN.....Stan Riffle
N3ALS.....Wes Morar
N3SVM.....Bob Reid
WA3GFM...Al Belardia
KA3SMF.....Dave Heim
KE3ED.....Tony Petruccelli/Station Trustee

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

N3NBJ.....Janet Petruccelli

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

KB3EAQ....Debbie Mehutcs

THE NET LIST

WPA CW NET.....7:00 PM DAILY.....3.585
TRADERS NET.....7:00 PM MON & FRI 3.898
HOSS TRADERS.....8:00 PM WEDNESDAY.3.910
CALLOUS BOTTOMS...11:00 PM DAILY...3.912.5
WPA PHONE & TFC NET...6:00 PM DAILY...3.983
PA TRAFFIC TRAINING NET..6:30 PM...3.610
E-CARS.....8:00 AM DAILY...7.255
EAN NET.....2:30 PM DAILY..7.243
RIP VANWINKLE.....7:00 AM DAILY..145.31
B.V.A.R.A. 2 METER.....8:30 PM WED....145.31
B.V.A.R.A. 10 METER...9:00 PM WED...28.370
WPA TRAFFIC.....8:00 PM DAILY..146.88
QCWA NET.....8:30 AM SUNDAY.147.03

VISIT THE B.V.A.R.A.'s WEBSITE AT:

www.qsl.net/bvara

If you have a submission for the B.V.A.R.A. QRM you may submit it to Janet N3NBJ by any of the following means.. E-mail: ke3ed@arrl.net, Packet: ke3ed@k3oiw.#wpa.pa.usa.na, or typed in text format on floppy disk. Thank you.



Inside This Issue

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Club News |
| 2 | B.V.A.R.A. Corn Roast |
| 3 | Remaining Estate Equipment |
| 4 | Line Scores move from QST |
| 5 | And More... |
-

CLUB MEETING

Debbie KB3EAQ would like to extend her thanks to John Rogers N3MSE for speaking at our July meeting. As you all know John is the ARRL Section Manager for Western Pennsylvania. A lot of useful information was presented such as club relations, ARRL certification courses, etc... Thanks again to John for coming all the way down from Butler to be with us.

This months meeting will be an abbreviated club meeting held at Shelter #11, Brady's Run Park, during our annual corn roast. This will be held Thursday August 15th 2002 at 6:00 PM. Very little club business will be discussed to leave more time for socializing, HI! Hope to see you there.

B.V.A.R.A. SPONSORED TEST SESSION

The Beaver Valley Amateur Radio Association will sponsor an ARRL VE examination on Saturday August 3rd, 2002 at the Community College of Beaver County's Aviation Science building located at 125 Cessna Drive, (Chippewa Twp.) Beaver Falls, PA.

Testing will start promptly at 10:00 AM so please plan on arriving at least 15 - 30 minutes prior. Walk-ins are welcome. Talk-ins will be on the 145.310 (W3SGJ) repeater. Use minus offset and 100 hz pl tone. Also you can see our exact location via APRS on 144.39 Mhz. Look for W3SGJ.

All candidates wishing to take a test should bring the following:

1. Two (2) forms of identification.
2. A pencil and a blue or black pen.
3. Your original AND a photocopy of your current license (if any).
4. Your original AND a photocopy of any C.S.C.E's (if any).
5. The test fee of \$10.00.

All classes of amateur radio license tests will be administered. CW tests will **NO LONGER** be multiple choice.

All Technician Plus operators licensed as such prior to March 21, 1987 should bring a copy and the original proof of this credit.

Candidates are welcome and encouraged to join us for breakfast at the Chippewa Brighton Hot Dog Shoppe at 8:00 AM. For more information contact Tony KE3ED at the following:

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

Packet: ke3ed @ k3oiw.#wpa.pa.usa.na
 Repeater: 145.310 (W3SGJ) minus offset & 100 hz pl tone.
 E-mail: ke3ed@bellatlantic.net
 Phone: (724) 774-4173

ANNUAL B.V.A.R.A. CORN ROAST

As mentioned earlier, our annual corn roast will be held at our monthly meeting. All are invited and encouraged to attend. Cost of admittance is extremely reasonable. One covered dish that we might all share. The corn and drinks will be provided by the club. Please plan on arriving around 5:30PM so we can be all set to eat by 6:00.

REMAINING EQUIPMENT FROM KB3LS ESTATE

Following is a list of remaining equipment remaining from the estate of Joe KB3LS. If you would like to purchase any of these items please contact Al WA3GFM or Wes N3ALS.

Heathkit accessory power supply \$ 25
 Dentron HF-ACS power supply for speaker in repair shop
 Vista Regulated power supply \$ 25
 Battery charger \$20
 Freq.counter \$15

Radio Shack 3 amp power supply \$ 10
 Ameco Pre-Amp PT-2 \$ 15
 Autek Res. QF-1A SSB/CW/AM Filter \$ 25
 B&W Low pass Filter Model 425 \$ 10
 Shertech SB 5001-1 VHS Tape Rewinder

Computemp Clock \$ 5
 Unadilla / Reyco Low pass Filter \$ 10
 CDE Rotator Beam Control \$ 50

Kenwood Mic \$ 3
 Shure Desk Mic \$ 3
 Mounting Brackets
 Icom IC-HM 10 Hand Mic

Hy Gain Rotator Control \$ 25
 2m Antenna \$ 20
 MFJ 2m Tuner \$ 40
 Swan SWR Meter \$ 15
 GE Hand Mic
 GSC 12 volt Power Supply \$15

Alliance Tenna Rotator Control \$ 20
 Archer Tenna Rotator Control \$ 10

2 Boxes of Code Tapes \$ 1 each

There remains a 40 Foot Tower \$100
 The 2 Meter Beams are for sale for \$30 and the vertical for \$40.

==>AMATEURS SUPPORT ARIZONA WILDFIRE RESPONSE; ARES STANDS DOWN IN COLORADO

Amateur Radio support of the Arizona wildfire response has continued this week. Arizona ARRL Section Manager Cliff Hauser, KD6XH, reports that there are enough Amateur Radio operators on hand to support the fire-fighting efforts. President Bush this week declared parts of the state federal disaster areas.

In addition to VHF and UHF repeaters, amateurs are maintaining HF nets on 3990 and 7265 kHz. An FCC communications emergency has put both HF frequencies, plus or minus 3 kHz, off limits to anyone not involved in handling emergency traffic. The ban will remain in effect until lifted. W1AW has suspended its bulletin transmissions on 3990 for the duration of the ban.

The combined Rodeo-Chediski Fire now has scorched more than 420,000 acres of Arizona woodlands. Upwards of 600 homes and businesses have been destroyed, and some 30,000 Arizona residents have been evacuated as a result of the fire.

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) has taken on the job of coordinating communications during the emergency. SATERN Western Area Coordinator Warren Andreason, K7CWA, reports SATERN has stations and operators at six locations in Arizona, including one in the threatened community of Show Low, where the National Guard asked The Salvation Army to set up a kitchen operation. Another has been set up at The Salvation Army's Camp Ponderosa near Heber, which is serving as a FEMA incident command post as well as a responder staging area.

SATERN Coordinator Pat McPherson, WW9E, said the HF network has been very effective in smoothing the flow of goods and supplies coming into the affected area. At one point, McPherson said, an on-the-air conference of Salvation Army principals established procedures and refine supply-chain logistics. "This only occurred due to the opportunity for all the principals to be on the air via Amateur Radio," he said. McPherson said that, so far, SATERN has had a good supply of volunteer reinforcements from the amateur community.

Hauser said other amateurs are supporting Red Cross facilities in Flagstaff, Holbrook and Phoenix. Operators from the Arizona Amateur Radio Club's W7IO are staffing the Arizona Emergency Operations Center in Phoenix. Cris McBride, KB7QXQ, told ARRL that about 30 radio amateurs from the Show Low area--including members of the Kachina Amateur Radio Club--have been helping to maintain contact between the Navajo County EOC and the state EOC. McBride, who lives five miles from Show Low, was among those evacuated June 19.

Hauser reports that Dave Epley, N9CZV, remains in Show Low, whose 8000 residents have been largely evacuated.

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

Epley has been handling health-and-welfare traffic for town residents who chose not to leave. Hauser said he plans to spend next week in Show Low to help out. Epley has requested that users not attempt to connect with his N9CZV IRLP node 336 in Show Low, which is being used for the fire emergency.

Meanwhile in Colorado, Amateur Radio Emergency Service support for the Hayman Fire concluded June 25. Several Colorado ARES teams spent the past few weeks volunteering their services as needed to local governments and to relief organizations, including the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army. ARRL Colorado SM Jeff Ryan, K0RM, reports that most evacuated residents have been allowed to return home.

==>FCC WRC-03 ADVISORY PANEL RECOMMENDS PHASED-IN WORLDWIDE 7-MHZ BAND

The FCC is requesting comments on the draft recommendations of its World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 Advisory Committee (WAC). Among the panel's recommended draft proposals to next year's international gathering is a plan--still subject to change--that would create a worldwide amateur allocation at 7.0 to 7.3 MHz by 2010. The deadline for comments on the proposals is July 12.

The draft proposals "may evolve as we approach WRC-03 and during the course of interagency discussions," the FCC noted in a Public Notice. "Therefore, they do not constitute the final national position on these issues."

While US amateurs already enjoy a 7.0 to 7.3 MHz allocation, only 7.0 to 7.1 MHz is available to amateurs in all three International Telecommunication Union regions, with 7.1 to 7.3 MHz available to broadcasting in much of the rest of the world. The draft proposal for WRC-03 agenda item 1.23 dealing with possible realignment of the 7-MHz amateur allocation calls for making 7.1 to 7.2 MHz available worldwide by April 1, 2007, and the 7.2 to 7.3 MHz segment by April 1, 2010. Broadcasting allocations would shift upward by 100 kHz at the same time--to 7450 kHz by 2007 and to 7550 by 2010. The intervening periods would permit time for international broadcasters and other services to adjust their operations accordingly.

The International Amateur Radio Union already is on record in favor of the approach. An earlier suggestion to shift the 40-meter allocation down by 100 kHz came off the table earlier this year to avoid affecting Fixed Service operations between 6765 and 7000 kHz.

In other draft proposals affecting the Amateur Service, the FCC's WRC-03 Advisory Committee has recommended no change to the table of allocations in the band 420 to 470 MHz. Agenda item 1.38 will consider providing up to 6 MHz of spectrum to the Earth exploration-satellite service (EESS)

in the band. So-called synthetic aperture radars (SARs) are used to measure soil moisture, tropical biomass and Antarctic ice thickness, and to document geological history and climate change. At issue is whether the EESS allocation could be established without interfering with incumbent services, including radiolocation and amateur.

Agenda item 1.5 will consider spectrum requirements and regulations for new and additional allocations to the mobile, fixed, EESS and space research services at 5.15 to 5.725 GHz. The FCC expressed reservations about WAC proposals for this frequency range, citing concerns expressed by the ARRL and others. Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services allocations could be negatively affected by new mobile allocations.

The full texts of the FCC WRC-03 Advisory Committee draft proposals are available on the panel's Web site <<http://www.fcc.gov/wrc-03>>. Commenters should submit an original and one copy to the Office of the Secretary, FCC, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554 and provide a courtesy copy to Alex Roytblat, FCC WRC-03 Director, Room 6-B505. Comments should refer to specific proposals by document number.

World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, from June 9 until July 4, 2003.

==>IT'S ALIIHIVE! AMSAT-OSCAR 7 SATELLITE RETURNS FROM THE DEAD

After being declared dead more than 20 years ago, the AMSAT-OSCAR 7 satellite suddenly came back to life this month. First heard June 21 by Pat Gowan, G3IOR, AO-7 subsequently has been monitored--and used again--by several other amateurs. AO-7 was launched November 15, 1974. It remained operational for more than six years before succumbing to battery failure in 1981.

"I'm blown away," was the reaction of AO-7 Project Manager Jan King, W3GEY. "So, this old war horse of a spacecraft seems to have come back from the dead if only for a few moments."

Exclaimed satellite enthusiast and AMSAT Vice President for User Services Bruce Paige, KK5DO, "This is really awesome!" Paige said the latest turn of events makes AO-7 the oldest amateur satellite that's still working. AMSAT-NA has now listed AO-7 as "semi-operational."

AMSAT says it seems certain the satellite is running only off its solar panels, not from the onboard batteries, so it will be operational only while it's in sunlight. King speculates that the batteries, which shorted as they failed two decades ago, now are "un-shortening" and causing the satellite to come back to life.

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

For those attempting to use AO-7, Mode A (2 meters up/10 meters down) is not a problem, but Mode B (70 cm up/2 meters down) is. Because of changes in the international Radio Regulations that went into effect in the 1970s as AO-7 was under construction, the 432.1 MHz uplink frequency is no longer authorized for space communications.

AMSAT advises potential users that when uplinking to a satellite, they are operating in the Amateur-Satellite Service. AMSAT says uplinking to AO-7 "is possibly illegal since the Amateur Satellite Service is not permitted at 432.1 MHz." The current band plan earmarks the 432.1 MHz range for weak signal work. Sections 97.207(c)(2) and 97.207(b)(2) of the FCC's rules authorize space station and earth station operation only in the 435-438 MHz segment.

Built by a multinational team under the direction of AMSAT-NA, AO-7 carries Mode A (145.850-950 MHz uplink; 29.400-500 MHz downlink) and Mode B (432.180-120 MHz uplink; 145.920-980 MHz downlink) linear transponders plus beacons on 29.502 and 145.972 MHz. A 2304.1 MHz beacon was never turned on because of international treaty constraints.

==>ARRL HQ MEETING EXPLORES ENHANCED PUBLIC SAFETY ROLE FOR AMATEUR RADIO

Exploring an enhanced post-9/11 public safety and homeland security role for Amateur Radio was the focus of a National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) Amateur Radio Working Group meeting June 25. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, hosted the daylong session at ARRL Headquarters which included participation by several ARRL staff members.

"It's our goal to increase the credibility of the Amateur Radio Service, especially after 9/11," Haynie said. "We know we have a great service that we can offer, and the resources are at no cost to the taxpayer, and it just makes good sense to us to use the Amateur Radio operators of America to help with homeland security and defense."

ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, briefed the gathering on ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Communications on-line training course series <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>>. Copies of the Level I emergency communications course were distributed to meeting participants for their suggestions and comments.

Chairing the session was Gene McGahey, AL7GQ, who is deputy manager of Communications Technology Technical Assistance for the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center. NPSTC <<http://www.npstc.org/>>--pronounced "nipstick"--is a coalition of organizations involved in public safety communications. ARRL is a NPSTC participant. This week's meeting was a followup to a brainstorming session last February in Washington, DC, in which ARRL took part.

McGahey said discussion this week included the public safety aspects of the proposed secondary domestic amateur allocation at 5 MHz; the relevance of accreditation and training programs and their role in validating Amateur Radio's participation in public safety communications support; the potential of 4.9 GHz to relieve public safety pressure from 2.4 GHz; and proposed research involving Amateur Radio's public safety role. Two surveys are under consideration for sometime within the next 12 months. One would determine Amateur Radio's specific emergency resources and capabilities. A second would assess the utilization and need for Amateur Radio resources by public safety officials.

Haynie said after the meeting that he's optimistic about Amateur Radio's greater involvement in public safety and homeland security communications. "It's a whole new mindset since September 11," he said, "and we now need to pay attention to how all Americans--whether they're in public safety or Amateur Radio--can cooperate to make this a safer nation."

==>FCC INITIATES INQUIRY INTO TENNESSEE ARRL-VEC EXAM SESSION

The FCC has asked two ARRL VEC volunteer examiners to explain why they took part in administering amateur exams to their family members. The inquiry involves a December 14, 1999, test session in Cookeville, Tennessee, at which the wife of VE Bobby A. Raymer, N2BR, and the brother of VE Steven G. Hunter, KF4FAV, were among the candidates. Kathy J. Raymer, KG4FWO, and Gary E. Hunter, KG4FRN, successfully passed exam elements at the session.

An FCC rule--§97.509(d)--prohibits a VE from administering an examination to a close relative. The FCC also wants to know how Steven Hunter could have been both a VE and an exam candidate at the same session.

The ARRL VEC has suspended its accreditation of both volunteer examiners, which is standard operating procedure in such cases. According to FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, Kathy Raymer already has agreed to forfeit her Technician license as a result of the FCC inquiry.

In separate letters May 30, Hollingsworth asked Bobby Raymer and Steven Hunter to "explain in detail the justification, if any" for administering Amateur Radio examinations to close relatives. In addition, the FCC wants to know how Steven Hunter was able to serve as a VE at a session during which he also upgraded to Extra class.

Hollingsworth pointed out that the rules prohibiting VEs from testing their own kin are in place "to help insure the integrity of the volunteer testing process."

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

==>ANOTHER ALL-HAM CREW SETTLES IN ABOARD THE ISS

The International Space Station Expedition 5 crew of US astronaut Peggy Whitson, KC5ZTD, Russian cosmonaut and crew commander Valery Korzun, RZ3FK, and cosmonaut Sergei Treschev, RZ3FU, is settling in aboard the space outpost. The increment 5 crew is the second all-ham crew to serve a duty tour aboard the ISS. The Expedition 5 team will be in space for 4-1/2 months.

Scheduled Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contacts are set to resume in early July, when QSOs have been penciled in with the Progymnasium Rosenfeld in Rosenfeld, Germany, and the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum in Chicago. Other contacts with schools and educational institutions in the US and abroad are pending.

Although school contacts have been on hold during the crew transition, all has not been silent on the ARISS front. Korzun occasionally has been active on 2 meters as RS0ISS and even made a few contacts during Field Day. Among those reporting QSOs was Huntsville, Alabama, AMSAT Area Coordinator Tim Cunningham, N8DEU. He worked Korzun from the K4BFT Field Day setup, where he managed the satellite station. Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, of New Mexico, also reported a quick Field Day QSO with Korzun while using only a 5 W handheld transceiver and an Arrow antenna.

On June 12, Lonny Kelly, W7LGK, struck up a casual QSO with Korzun after he heard some activity on the ARISS downlink frequency (145.800 MHz) and put out a call. "Man, what an exciting moment!" he said afterward. "I had been trying for a little over a year to talk to one of the astronauts aboard the ISS, and I had finally made it."

The Expedition 5 crew officially began its duty tour June 7, arriving aboard the shuttle Endeavour. Since coming aboard, the crew has been unpacking gear and familiarizing itself with the station and its systems. A Progress supply rocket is scheduled to dock with the ISS June 29. Still undetermined is the effect on the ISS schedule resulting from the grounding of the NASA shuttle fleet while it looks into possible fuel line cracks. Missions are scheduled for July, August and October, when the Expedition 6 team is scheduled to arrive, and the current crew returns home.

==>ARRL RECEIVES HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING GRANT

The ARRL will receive a \$181,900 homeland security grant from the US government to train Amateur Radio operators in emergency communication. The League was among several dozen nonprofit organizations designated to receive some \$10.3 million in federal money to boost homeland defense volunteer programs. The grant, from the Corporation for

National and Community Service special volunteer program, will provide free ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course training to 5200 volunteers nationwide, starting in 2003.

"ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio and is the national leader in emergency communications by volunteers who operate their own equipment on their time at no cost to any government, organization, or corporation," said the July 19 announcement from Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge. The ARRL plans to revise and update the emergency communications curriculum to incorporate additional elements of emergency preparedness and homeland security.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was extremely pleased by the news. "This adds legitimacy to the public service work Amateur Radio has been doing for years," he said.

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, applied for the funding in May, inviting the Corporation for National and Community Service to become "a partner with the nation's oldest volunteer radio communications organization."

"I think this is an extraordinarily exciting day for Amateur Radio that the role of Amateur Radio in homeland security is recognized at the highest levels of government," Hobart said upon learning of the grant. The League's grant application characterized Amateur Radio as "the bedrock of communications when other outlets fail."

Citing Amateur Radio's response in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks, Hobart said the federal grant "will help continue our work in providing public service and to protect lives, homes, businesses and our frequencies, as we have for decades."

The League had sought a three-year grant of \$541,750. The \$181,900 grant covers the first year's direct program costs. The proposed budget includes the cost of a project coordinator who would be responsible for overall fiscal management of the grant.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said he was pleased that the League would be able to extend its Amateur Radio Emergency Communications program to thousands of amateurs who might otherwise not be able to afford the program. "We hope all who are interested will get on board," he said.

The grant announcement said that "expanding the opportunities for Americans to participate in meaningful volunteer service" is at the heart of President George Bush's USA Freedom Corps, of which the Corporation for National and Community Service is a part.

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

"We are deeply grateful to Tom Ridge and to the Corporation for National and Community Service for providing Amateur Radio with a unique opportunity to serve our country," Hobart said.

In June, the ARRL and United Technologies Corporation announced a partnership to provide free ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course training for up to 250 Connecticut amateurs.

==>ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS IN CONNECTICUT

The ARRL Board of Directors convenes July 19-21 in Windsor, Connecticut, for its mid-year meeting. Among the issues up for consideration is whether to drop "Section News" and contest line scores from QST and move them to the ARRL Web site. A Board resolution in January said the moves were part of an effort to stem ARRL operating losses while retaining its commitment to "effectively and efficiently providing information of interest to all ARRL members."

ARRL management and the ARRL Administration and Finance Committee proposed the QST change last winter. At its January meeting, however, the Board put off a decision on the controversial move saying it wanted members to first be "aware of the reasons for the proposed relocation and the enhanced capabilities available on the Web site." The Board also said it wanted to evaluate "variations and alternatives" to the proposal.

Also up for discussion are preparations for World Radiocommunication Conference 2003, including an update on efforts to secure a 300-kHz worldwide amateur allocation at 40 meters. In addition to officer and committee reports, the Board also will hear a review from ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, of FCC regulatory and legal matters. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, will report on the status of the League's fundraising efforts.

Addressing Board members, guests and ARRL staff members July 18 prior to the formal Board session, FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth said that while complaints are down, he does not expect Amateur Radio to be in a maintenance mode until next year. "These are great times for Amateur Radio," Hollingsworth declared. Although enforcement will hold the course, he's hoping by year's end to take "a more aggressive stance" against 10-meter incursions by unlicensed individuals. He said that using 10 meters was among the best defenses against intruders. Hollingsworth also met with ARRL staff members July 19 to discuss specific areas of concern and cooperation.

At their meeting, Board members also will consider nominees for several ARRL-sponsored awards, including the prestigious Hiram Percy Maxim award, the Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award and various instructor and recruiting awards.

The Volunteer Resources, Membership Services and Administration and Finance committees met this week in advance of the formal Board session. Radio Amateurs of Canada President Bill Gillis, VE1WG, is a guest at the July Board meeting.

==>N5TJ, K1TO MAKE IT THREE IN A ROW AT WRTC 2002!

It's final. The dynamic contesting duo of Jeff Steinman, N5TJ, and Dan Street, K1TO, took home the World Radiosport Team Championship gold for the third time. Operating as OJ3A, N5TJ and K1TO racked up 1,629,798 points to again earn the top spot. Grabbing the second-place silver was the Russian team of Igor Booklan, RA3AUU, and Andrei Karpov, RV1AW, with 1,619,226 points from OJ8E. Operating as OJ2V, the German team of Frank Grossman, DL2CC, and Bernd Och, DL6FBL, picked up the bronze with 1,608,673 points. Preliminary results had given the silver to the German team and the bronze to the Russians.

"Some software used by teams did not count multipliers correctly," said a statement on the WRTC 2002 Web site <<http://www.wrtc2002.org/>>. "This is the reason why some claimed scores were changed just after the contest on the scoreboard." The on-line real-time scoreboard was a first for a WRTC.

The winners at WRTC 96 in the San Francisco Bay area and at WRTC 2000 in Slovenia, Steinman and Street were considered the odds-on favorites to top the field at this year's international competition in Finland. The OJ3A station, on loan from host Timo Keskinen, OH2HXP, was the easternmost of the WRTC 2002 stations, located some 70 km from the Finnish capital of Helsinki.

By and large, propagation was excellent for the event, which ran concurrently with the IARU HF World Championship. Although 10 meters never opened, others reported excellent conditions on 40 and 20 meters. The equivalently equipped WRTC competitors used antennas that were about 40 feet above ground, and all stations ran 100 W.

WRTC 2002 was organized jointly by Contest Club Finland and the Finnish Amateur Radio League--SRAL. WRTC 2002 formally concluded July 16 with an awards banquet and presentation.

Official results are posted on the WRTC 2002 Web site <<http://www.wrtc2002.org/results.htm>>.

==>CC&R BILL HR 4720 GAINS ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

The bill now in Congress aimed at providing relief to amateurs faced with private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--CC&Rs--in erecting antennas has gained

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

additional cosponsors. Freshman Rep Steve Israel (D-NY) introduced the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act" on May 14. The measure--HR 4720--would require private land-use regulators--such as homeowners' associations--to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities. Rep Greg Walden, WB7OCE (R-OR) and Rep Pete Sessions (R-TX) signed on as original cosponsors of HR 4720.

Since its introduction, the bill also has attracted several additional cosponsors. These include Representatives J.D. Hayworth (R-AZ), Patrick Tiberi (R-OH), Patsy Mink (D-HI), Ken Calvert (R-CA), Rick Boucher (D-VA), Joseph Hoeffel (D-PA), John Duncan Jr (R-TN), Dennis Moore (D-KS), Charles Stenholm (D-TX) and David Price (D-NC).

Visit the US House of Representatives "Write Your Representative Service" Web page, www.house.gov/writerep/ for information on how to contact your representative. The ARRL requests those writing or e-mailing members of Congress--whether or not they are supporting this legislation--to copy ARRL on their correspondence--via e-mail to ccr-bill@arrl.org or via US Mail to CC&R Bill, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Correspondents should include the bill number, HR 4720, as well as their name and address on all correspondence.

==>FCC INCHES CLOSER TO FULL STRENGTH

The FCC moved closer to its full complement of five commissioners as the US Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held a confirmation hearing on the nomination of Jonathan S. Adelstein July 16. A Democrat, Adelstein has been tapped by the White House to serve out the

remaining term of former FCC Commissioner Gloria Tristani, which expires next June 30. Following the hearing, Adelstein's nomination was sent on to the full Senate, but no vote has been set.

President George W. Bush announced his intention to name Adelstein in February, but the nomination subsequently became embroiled in political wrangling, with some Senate Republicans vowing to block the nomination. Adelstein was a longtime aide to Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, who recommended Adelstein for the job and introduced him at the confirmation hearing. FCC appointments traditionally are divided along party lines, with the party holding the White House getting three of the five seats.

Adelstein, 39, is from Rapid City, South Dakota. Before joining Daschle's staff, Adelstein served on the staffs of senators David Pryor and Donald Riegle. According to a White House statement, Adelstein has been a teaching fellow in Harvard College's Department of History and a communications consultant to Stanford University's Graduate

School of Business. Adelstein holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Stanford University. He's also completed graduate-level work in public policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

==>VOSS CITES ARISS' VALUE IN SENATE TESTIMONY

International Space Station Expedition 2 crew member Jim Voss got in a few good words for Amateur Radio when he appeared June 19 before the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. A retired US Army colonel, Voss cited the value of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program in helping to inform and educate youngsters about space exploration and life aboard the ISS as well as to demonstrate scientific principles. ARISS is an international project, with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

Voss said ARISS "offers the opportunity for students to experience the excitement of space flight by talking directly with crewmembers of the ISS via Amateur Radio." Voss also cited the enthusiastic comments of Allen White, WB4MIO, who helped to coordinate Voss' ARISS contact with Admiral Moorer Middle School in Alabama. "There is no way I can adequately describe the excitement this created in our school and community," White wrote in a letter to Voss. "I think this was the most exciting educational event of the year for these students."

Although not an amateur licensee, Voss participated in several ARISS school QSOs from the controls of NA1SS, the ARISS station, during his duty tour aboard the ISS. The other Expedition 2 crew members were Crew Commander Yuri Usachev, RW3FU, and Susan Helms, KC7NHZ. The crew spent 167 days in space aboard what Voss called "a permanent orbiting classroom that brings education and research out of textbooks and into real life."

Voss said the in-flight education programs like ARISS "use the unique environment of space to inspire the next generation of explorers." Taking advantage of technological tools that include Amateur Radio, he concluded, "students are able to study and explore Earth from space, learn about life aboard an orbiting laboratory, and conduct demonstrations that illustrate scientific and mathematical concepts."

==>POP STAR LANCE BASS OF 'N SYNC GETS SET FOR SPACE

According to media accounts, a deal has been struck with Russian space officials to put 'N Sync pop singing star Lance Bass aboard the International Space Station this fall. MSNBC reports that the 23-year-old singer now is in training at Russia's Star City cosmonaut facility near Moscow. Russian space agency officials reportedly are seeking formal approval from the ISS partners. One topic still at issue is whether there's enough time for Bass to undergo the requisite

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

training—typically at least six months. At best, Bass will get somewhat more than three months to wrap up his training regimen.

The arrangement, which followed months of negotiations, would mark the third visit by a paying guest to the ISS. Millionaire businessman Dennis Tito, KG6FZX, and South African entrepreneur Mark Shuttleworth each paid some \$20 million for the privilege of spending about 10 days in space. A similar price tag is being suggested for the Bass journey.

While in space, Tito and Shuttleworth made use of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station's NA1SS to communicate with family and friends and with schools on Earth.

If all goes as planned, Bass would travel to the ISS aboard a Soyuz vehicle in October. He would become the youngest person ever to travel into space--and the first entertainer. Media deals--including a TV series covering Bass' space adventure--already are in the works. MSNBC says a formal announcement is pending.

LINE SCORES MOVING FROM QST TO WEB

Starting next January, "Section News" and contest line score results will appear on the ARRL Web site rather than in QST. Meeting July 19-20 in Windsor, Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors voted 9-6 to approve a resolution formally relocating "Section News" to the ARRL Web site. "Section News" has appeared in the League's official journal at least since 1919. The "Section News" Web sites—already in place--will provide the officials of each ARRL section "the capability of an up-to-date information resource that can be tailored to the needs of their section," the resolution said.

The space freed up by relocating "Section News" will allow more in-depth coverage of general news, public service activities and "how-to" articles aimed at involving more amateurs in emergency preparedness. Members unable to use the Web can request their section's reports in hard-copy format.

The Board resolution noted that the past six months had given members the opportunity to understand the reasons for relocating "Section News," to discuss alternatives and to better understand and see the advantages of the expanded content available on the Web site.

Voting for the change were Directors Dick Isely, W9GIG (Central); Jay Bellows, K0QB (Dakota); Frank Fallon, N2FF (Hudson); Wade Walstrom, W0EJ (Midwest); Tom Frenaye, K1KI (New England); Dennis Bodson, W4PWF (Roanoke); Walt Stinson, W0CP (Rocky Mountain); Art Goddard, W6XD (Southwestern); and Coy Day, N5OK (West Gulf).

Directors Bernie Fuller, N3EFN (Atlantic); Rick Roderick, K5UR (Delta); George Race, WB8BGY (Great Lakes); Greg

Milnes, W7OZ (Northwestern); Jim Maxwell, W6CF (Pacific); and Frank Butler, W4RH (Southeastern), voted against the change.

In a separate resolution approved by voice vote, the Board agreed that the ARRL Web site now provides a better medium to report the results of ARRL-sponsored contests, and line scores no longer will appear in QST. The change does not affect ARRL Field Day results, which will continue to be published in the magazine.

A Web site established earlier this year now includes, among other features, a searchable database of contest line scores for members and the ability to easily analyze individual and club scores. There's also an on-line Soapbox to post comments and photos immediately after a contest, as well as an expanded narrative for each event. The ARRL also now offers members the free Contest Rate Sheet newsletter, which focuses specifically on contesting.

==>IN BRIEF:

*** Certification and Continuing Education course registration:** Registration for the Level I ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (EC-001) will remain open through the April 6-7 weekend. Registration for the Level II Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (EC-002) and for the Antenna Modeling Course (EC-004) opens Monday, April 8; registration for the Level III Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (EC-003) opens Monday, April 15. All registrations open at 4 PM Eastern Time. ARRL Emergency Communications courses must be completed in order, starting with Level I. A reminder: Beginning July 1, registration fees for all on-line courses will increase by \$5. 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 Certification and Continuing Education Program Coordinator Dan Miller, K3UFG, cce@arrl.org.

*** CC&R bill attracts additional cosponsors:** The bill now in Congress aimed at providing relief to amateurs faced with private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--CC&Rs--in erecting antennas has gained additional cosponsors. Freshman Rep Steve Israel (D-NY) introduced the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act" on May 14. The measure--HR 4720--would require private land-use regulators--such as homeowners' associations--to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities. Rep Greg Walden, WB7OCE (R-OR) and Rep Pete Sessions (R-TX) signed on as original cosponsors of HR 4720. Since its introduction, the bill also has attracted additional cosponsors--Rep J.D. Hayworth (R-AZ), Rep Patrick Tiberi (R-OH), Rep Patsy Mink (D-HI), Rep Ken Calvert (R-CA), Rep Rick Boucher (D-VA), Rep Joseph Hoeffel (D-PA) and Rep John Duncan Jr

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

(R-TN). Visit the US House of Representatives "Write Your Representative Service" Web page <<http://www.house.gov/writerep/>> for information on how to contact your representative. The ARRL requests those writing or e-mailing members of Congress--whether or not they are supporting this legislation--to copy ARRL on their correspondence--via e-mail to ccr-bill@arrl.org or via US Mail to CC&R Bill, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Correspondents should include the bill number, HR 4720, as well as their name and address on all correspondence.

*** Dayton Hamvention attendance dips again in 2002:** Dayton Hamvention reports that attendance for this year's 50th anniversary event was 24,832--down about 5 percent from 2001's crowd of 26,151. The 2002 number marks the second year in a row that Hamvention attendance has dipped. Over the past five years, attendance numbers had climbed to 28,804 in 2000, the year of the ARRL National Convention at Dayton. Hamvention attendance peaked in 1993 at 33,669--before the event date changed from April to May.

*** Petition for Reconsideration follows FCC's denial:** Nick Leggett, N3NL, and Don Schellhardt have asked the FCC to reconsider its staff-level denial of their petition that would have required all electronic equipment subject to the Commission's jurisdiction--possibly including amateur gear--to be shielded against electromagnetic pulse (EMP) damage. In late May, the FCC dismissed the petition, designated RM-10330, saying that comments filed overwhelmingly favored that action. In their reconsideration request, Leggett and Schellhardt noted that they now have sent letters requesting the support of key congressional leaders as well as members of the Executive Branch, including President George W. Bush. "We will soon see which of these individuals, if any, are willing to extend themselves on a matter of pressing national security: that is, the need for mandatory shielding to protect vital civilian electronics equipment from the possible hostile use of an Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP)," the petitioners said in an emotional appeal. Among other things, the petition accuses the FCC of breach of statutory duty for failing to take steps to mitigate any EMP threat. The FCC said it saw no need to intervene because industry already was developing its own voluntary EMP standards, which Leggett and Schellhardt view as inadequate and incomplete.

*** Field Day turns tragic for Alabama club:** Muscle Shoals Amateur Radio Club President Randy Newton, AF4TG (ex-KE4TZV) of Killen, Alabama, suffered a fatal heart attack during the club's W4JNB Field Day operation June 23. He was 43. "Randy had been doing his part to bring club members into the meetings, as well as making everyone feel welcome on the 146.61 club repeater," said club member Rick Ruhl, W4PC. Ruhl said attempts by trained individuals on site failed to revive Newton. "He did pass on doing what he loved, ham radio, which was some comfort to us," Ruhl said. The club terminated its Field Day operation after the incident. Newton was an ARRL member and a volunteer examiner.

Survivors include his wife, Mary, KF4MEI. A funeral service was held June 25.

*** Nevada ARES team supports fire response:** ARES Northern Nevada District Emergency Coordinator Matt Parker, N7TOD, reports that the Cannon Fire in northwestern Nevada prompted a request for communications support from the Sierra Nevada Chapter of the American Red Cross in Reno June 17. Members of the Northern Nevada Amateur Radio Services (NNARS), Douglas County Amateur Radio Team (DCART), and Lyon County ARES (LCARES) responded. Parker says Amateur Radio was used to set up a communication link between evacuation centers in Topaz and Coleville, California, and the chapter house in Reno. "Mountainous terrain and the 80-mile distance between Reno and the fire area made communications using the Red Cross radio system impossible," Parker explained. Two meters was used from Reno, while HF was used into the fire area. DCART members in the Minden/Gardnerville, Nevada, area provided relays between the two points. Support operations began on the afternoon of June 17 and ended at noon on June 19 when the fire moved away from populated areas and evacuation orders were cancelled. "Chapter personnel were most grateful for our services," Parker said. "The Red Cross was grateful as well for the assistance given by members of DCART and LCARES." An after-action report for NNARS' participation is on the Northern Nevada Amateur Radio Services Web site <<http://www.qsl.net/nnars>>.

*** SKYWARN activates for busy night in Minnesota:** Amateurs in Central Minnesota had a busy night June 20 when severe weather was reported in several counties. Stearns County SKYWARN activated at about 7:40 PM local time with John Wetter, K0WDJ; Jack Maus, W0MBD; and Brian Wall, KC0IOG, handling net control duties and Stearns County Emergency Management Director Marvin Klug, KB0RRS, in the 911 dispatch center. At 7:58 PM, Bill Klundt, KG0DX, spotted a tornado about five miles southwest of Sauk Centre. The report was shared with the National Weather Service office in Minneapolis/Chanhassen, K0MPX, which issued a tornado warning for Stearns County. Spotters continued to watch the storm as it moved through the county, with a report of a funnel cloud near Freeport from Ron Kittelson, K0OS, and again near St Stephen. Funnel clouds were again spotted as a new storm formed and moved near St Cloud. A brief tornado was reported in Sauk Rapids at 9:18 PM, but no damage was confirmed. The SKYWARN net stood down at 9:45 PM as the storms weakened and moved out of the county.—John Wetter, K0WDJ

*** Correction/clarification:** The story "It's Aliiiiiive! AMSAT-OSCAR 7 Satellite Returns from the Dead" in The ARRL Letter, Vol 21, No 26 (Jun 28, 2002), contained a typographical error. It should have read, "Sections 97.207(c)(2) and 97.209(b)(2) of the FCC's rules authorize space station and earth station operation only in the 435-438 MHz segment." The story "FCC Initiates Inquiry into

B.V.A.R.A. QRM

Tennessee ARRL-VEC Exam Session" in the same edition of The ARRL Letter contained incorrect information. Volunteer Examiner Bobby A. Raymer, N2BR, resigned as a VE after the December 14, 1999, test session under investigation; his accreditation was not suspended as a result of the inquiry.

*** ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration:** The registration fee for all on-line courses has increased by \$5, effective July 1. Registration for the Level II ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (EC-002) and Antenna Modeling (EC-004) courses remains open through the July 13-14 weekend. Registration for the Level III Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (EC-003) and HF Digital Communications (EC-005) courses opens Monday, July 15. Registration for the Satellite Communications course (EC-007) opens Monday, July 22. All registrations open at 4 PM Eastern Time. ARRL Emergency Communications courses must be completed in order, starting with Level I. 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 Certification and Continuing Education Program Coordinator Dan Miller, K3UFG, dmiller@arrl.org.

*** Additional ARRL Field Day 2002 pins to be available:** For those who missed out on getting an ARRL Field Day 2002 pin, a limited supply will be available starting July 29. Field Day pins are \$5. Visit the ARRL Web site for details on how to order your pin or Field Day 2002 T-shirt <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=&words=Field+Day+pin>>.

*** South Carolina amateur celebrates July 4 with ISS QSO:** Al Lark, KD4SFF, in South Carolina, has added another holiday space QSO to his list. Lark, who lives in Greenville, reports that on July 4, he worked Russian cosmonaut Valery Korzun, RZ3FK, operating RS0ISS aboard the International Space Station. "Valery was again active on voice over the USA, wishing all a happy Independence Day!" Lark said. "I was one of the very lucky stations to speak to him!" Lark says he also heard Korzun work several other stations during the 18-degree pass over Greenville. A veteran of the Space Amateur Radio EXperiment (SAREX) and Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) programs, Lark says he contacted Mir on Christmas Day in 1993, followed by a QSO with astronaut Norm Thagard on Easter 1995 and a Memorial Day 2001 contact with Susan Helms, KC7NHZ, aboard the ISS. "Maybe one of these days I can achieve 'Worked all Holidays,'" he said.

*** Amateur 220-222 MHz band under attack in Canada:** Radio Amateurs of Canada says the Land Mobile Radio community has asked the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC) to look into the possibility of making all or part of the 220-222 MHz portion of the 220-225 MHz amateur band available for Land Mobile use in Canada. The RABC will make its recommendations to Industry Canada later this year.

The band 220-222 MHz already is a Land Mobile band in the US and is not available to amateurs in most parts of the world. The remainder of the band--the 222-225 MHz portion--is not up for discussion. RAC recently conducted a survey <<http://www.rac.ca/220survey.htm>> on its Web site to gather information on band usage.

*** Emergency Communication course offered at New England Division Convention:** A brief review version of the Level I ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications course (EC-001) will be offered in classroom format at the ARRL New England Division Convention, August 23-24, at