

Smoke Signals

ITARS, KD5SDJ

Presidential QRM

November, 2003



Hard to believe its November already. Daylight savings time is gone and its dark by the time I get home from work. The good news is we are into winter conditions for HF and the sun is still giving us some exciting solar storms to enhance our VHF too. In case you didn't hear, there were several very strong solar storms in the last week, some even producing aurora into Oklahoma. Even if you can't see the aurora, it is still worth listening to VHF calling frequencies to check on some good propagation when the

solar storms are active.

My favorite web site to check all this out is: <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/SWN/index.html> Nice graphics and the latest conditions, they even have tutorials on how to use all the information.

The latest on the repeater from my end is that I have decided the controller has a problem, seems to be with the main processor chip.

I am going to order a new set of chips for it and replace them all just in case. It shouldn't be too expensive, the partial kit is only \$30.



I will let you know when I have it repaired.

Don't forget this month's meeting, November 10th at our usual spot, Sunshine Cafe in Mounds at 7:00 pm, hope to see a big crowd.

73,
Bill, NI5X



From the Editor

First off let me apologize for such a sorry newsletter, I have been under the weather for several weeks. Don't forget the Texoma Hamfest this weekend. Here is a few words from John, WB5YST OK section manager for the ARRL: This

weekend is the Texoma Hamarama at the Lodge in Kingston, OK.

Quite a list of good programs, vendors and flea market to be enjoyed by all. Look forward to seeing many Section members at the Ham-

fest. Effort is underway to work in a League forum. Be looking and listening for the opportunity to get an update on Section happenings. Hope to see many of you.....drive carefully as we have learned to bring an umbrella to Texoma!

73 MAGAZINE SAYS "73 AND QRT"

After completing 43 years of publication, 73 Amateur Radio Today magazine is calling it quits. Plans to publish a joint October/November issue fell through this week, and the September 2003 issue was the magazine's last. According to self-proclaimed "El Supremo and Founder" Wayne S. Green II, W2NSD, it was a simple matter of economics. "After failing a last minute effort to collect on some larger accounts receivable we decided yesterday to throw in the towel--that the September issue will have to be the last," Green told ARRL October 9. "SK after 43 years of publishing." The first issue of 73 was published in October 1960 from what Green--a former editor of CQ--once described as "a small, dingy apartment" in Brooklyn, New York. Since the summer of 1962, 73 has been based in Peterborough, New Hampshire--Green's home state. The magazine was a

pioneer promoter of SSB, FM, solid-state, easy construction projects and the marriage of personal computing and Amateur Radio. His interest in microcomputing led Green in 1975 to found Byte, a magazine devoted to the then-nascent and largely do-it-yourself computer hobby. At the peak of its popularity in the 1970s and 1980s, individual issues of 73 totaled more than 300 pages of ads, articles and commentary. Heading each issue was Green's inimitable "Never Say Die"--some would say never-ending--editorial, in which he rarely missed an opportunity to tweak the ARRL and his magazine competitors for their perceived shortcomings. QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, says 73 published his first article in the 1970s. "I was saddened to hear that 73 has ceased publishing," Ford said. "Wayne's excitement about the growing amateur FM repeater phe-

nomenon at the time was infectious." Green's 73 editorials and regular round of personal appearances originally concentrated on Amateur Radio and his ideas to improve, advance and grow it. In recent years, however, they've veered into conspiracy theories, cures for cancer, AIDS and other ailments and Green's proliferation of book titles on those topics. Green says he'll continue his essays on his Web site <<http://www.waynegrn.com>> "for those subscribers who mainly bought the magazine for them." He told ARRL that no definite arrangements have been made yet about how to handle outstanding 73 subscriptions. CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, said he takes no joy from the passing of 73. "The loss of any publication serving Amateur Radio leaves all of us a bit poorer," he said. "Thank you, Wayne, for 43 entertaining, informative, sometimes infuriating, and always interesting years of 73. We'll genuinely miss it."

Logbook of the World

ARRL's *Logbook of the World* (LoTW) system is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world. When both participants in a QSO submit matching QSO records to LoTW, the result is a QSL that can be used for ARRL award credit.

To minimize the chance of fraudulent submissions to LoTW, all QSO records must be digitally signed using a digital certificate obtained from ARRL. Obtaining such a certificate re-

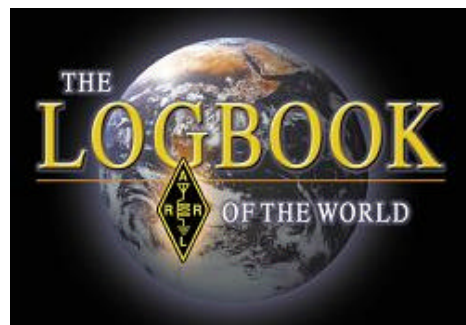
quires verification of the licensee's identity either through mail verification (US) or inspection by ARRL of required documentation (non-US).

Software developed by ARRL can be used to convert a log file (in ADIF or Cabrillo file format) into a file of digitally signed QSO data, ready for submission to LoTW.

LoTW began operation on September 15, 2003.

You can download the software for LoTW at :

www.arrl.org/lotw



FCC INVITES COMMENTS ON ADDITIONAL MORSE CODE-RELATED PETITIONS

The FCC has sounded the bell to begin Round 2 of the Morse code debate by inviting public comment on another group of seven Morse-related petitions for rulemaking. The FCC put the petitions on public notice October 8, and comments are due by November 7. Members of the amateur community may make

their opinions known on any or all of these filings using the FCC's

Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>. The petitions are RM-10805 through RM-10811. To summarize:

* Charles L. Young Jr, AG4YO, asks the FCC to delete the 5 WPM Morse code test (Element 1) for Technician-plus-Element 1 privileges (formerly "Tech Plus"). Designated RM-10805, his petition would retain Element 1 as an examination requirement for General and Amateur Extra applicants and give Technicians limited HF SSB privileges.

* Describing CW as "the purest, most accurate, efficient, reliable and economical form of radio communications ever devised," Frank Napurano, K2OKA, requests that the FCC retain the 5 WPM Morse requirement "in the

interest of public safety, the preservation of a radio art and as a

F C C designated his filing as RM-10806.

* A petition by Robert G. Rightsell, AE4FA and Harry A. M. Kholer, N0PU, designated RM-10807, would continue Morse testing but give applicants up to 24 points of exam credit according to their success on Element 1. The final exam score would be the sum of earned Element 1 points and the written test score for a possible total of 100 points. Their petition asks

calls on the FCC to consolidate the Novice and Technician and the Advanced and Amateur Extra licenses, boost the number and range of written test questions and give new Technicians CW and data privileges. * Joseph Speroni, AH0A, seeks to have the FCC delete Element 1 for applicants who want to operate phone on HF but retain Element 1 at 5 WPM for applicants who want to operate CW. Designated RM-10808, his petition would restructure the Amateur Radio testing regime to require specific knowledge of "RTTY, data, image, spread spectrum, pulse/test, RACES/ARES and space communications only for those wishing to operate these modes." Under Speroni's plan, applicants would be under no obligation to pass mode-specific examination elements for mode privileges

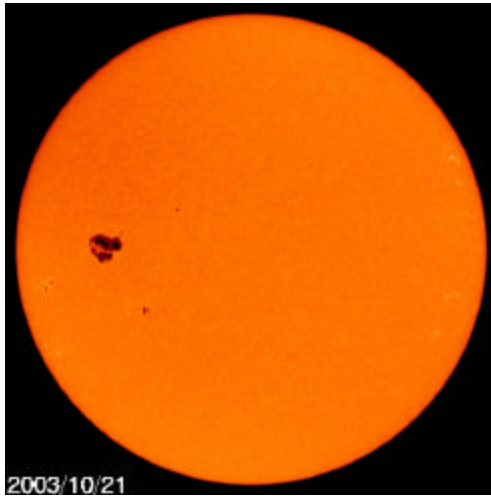
they don't wish to operate.

* The Puerto Rico Amateur Radio League (PRARL) asks the FCC to delete Element 1 for Technician and General classes but to increase the rigor of the written elements for those two license classes. The PRARL would keep the 5 WPM Morse exam for Extra applicants. The PRARL also would eliminate same-session retesting and require 30 days between retakes. The petition is designated RM-10809.

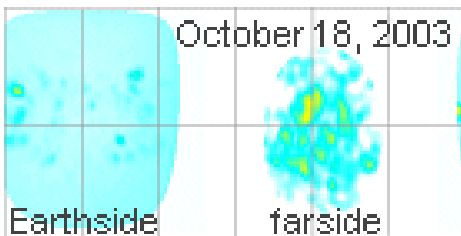
* James Roux, W4YA, proposes in his petition, designated RM-10810, that the FCC cut the number of license classes to two--General and Amateur Extra--and the number of written examination elements to one--at the General level. Roux's petition would eliminate the 5 WPM Morse code exam for General but require Extra applicants to pass a 15 WPM test. Roux also would give Generals all currently available amateur privileges except the Extra-class CW subbands.

* A petition filed on behalf of FISTS CW Club <<http://www.fists.org>> would delete the requirement to pass Element 1 to obtain Technician plus Element 1 (ie, "Tech Plus") HF privileges. Designated RM-10811, it would merge Tech and Tech Plus into a single class, emphasize technical content, including digital modes, on written examinations and extend digital mode privileges within

SUN ERUPTS WITH INTENSE ACTIVITY



Oct. 22, 2003 - Forecasters at the [NOAA Space Environment Center](#) in Boulder, Colo., observed two dynamic areas of the sun, one of which has produced a coronal mass ejection, or CME, Wednesday morning at 3 a.m. EDT that appears to be Earth-directed. The forecasters are predicting a strong geomagnetic storm, that should reach Earth on Friday, October 24. **(Click here to view larger image from the SOHO spacecraft of the intense solar activity on the sun taken Oct. 21, 2003. to view high resolution version, which is a large file. to view latest**



images. Please credit "SOHO.")

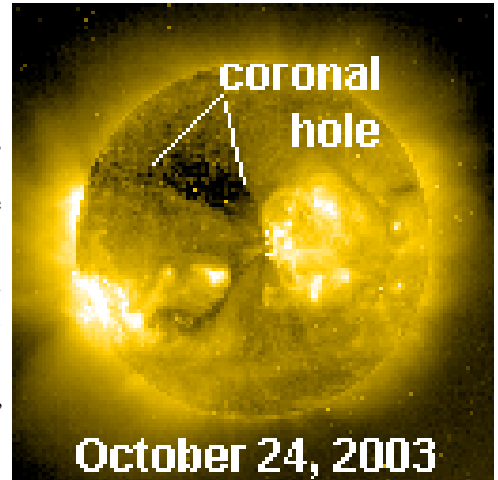
NOAA Region 484 developed rapidly over the past three days and is now one of the largest sunspot clusters to emerge during Solar Cycle 23. It is about 10 times larger than the Earth. This region, which is nearing the center of the sun, already produced a major flare, R-3 on the NOAA Space Weather

Scales, producing a radio blackout on October 19 at 12:50 p.m EDT. The region continues to grow, and additional substantial flare activity is likely.

Larry Combs, a forecaster with the NOAA Space Environment Center's Space Weather Operations, said that this region has developed rapidly over the last three to four days. "It's somewhat unusual to have this much activity when we're approximately three-and-a-half years past solar maximum," he said. "In fact, just last week, solar activity was very low with an almost spotless sun." Solar cycles of high and low activity repeat about every eleven years, and the sun has been moving towards solar minimum for the past three years.

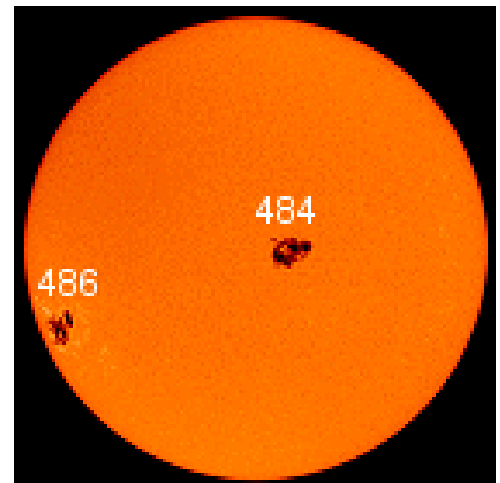
A second intense active region is rotating on the southeast quadrant of the sun. Although the sunspot group is not yet visible, two powerful eruptions occurred on October 21 as seen from the LASCO instrument on the spacecraft. These eruptions may herald the arrival of another volatile active center with the potential to impact various Earth systems.

Further major eruptions are possible from these active regions as they rotate across the face of the sun over the next two weeks. Satellite and other spacecraft operations, power systems, high frequency communications, and navigation systems may experience disrup-



tions over this two-week period.

NOAA is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and providing environmental stewardship



of the nation's coastal and marine resources. NOAA is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce \

Just in case you were wondering why conditions have been squirrely.

Taken from the internet

The Old Man and His Telegraph Key

He wasn't your ordinary hero but he belonged in the Hall of Fame. He wasn't seven feet tall and never played basketball. He could never have been a tight end who scored the winning touchdown. Why he wasn't even your favorite movie star.

Seldom did he miss speaking the right word at the right time. He never talked out loud but he would speak and you would drop all thought and listen. He would gesture with his favorite golden telegraph key. Looking beyond a fellow man's fist he could look into your heart. He would always bring interesting thought and listen to your response.

Our hero would even fall asleep in his favorite chair just behind his radio and to the left of his telegraph key. You would have thought that the warmth from that telegraph key stopped the cold on a cold evening. Sometimes while alone in the big house you could hear music in the background. A strange music to most but the note would never change as the words flowed throughout the house.

Over the years he was always there. Sometimes in a blizzard and sometimes on a sunny day he would direct others into his heart. When times were difficult he could put good thoughts and comfort in place of despair and pain. Darkness would only fill a night and never your soul when he tapped his tele-

graph key of life.

And then it happened one day! I don't remember if it was his friend or his wife. "That old telegraph key must go or I am not your friend any longer," came the insistence.

I think it broke his heart that day but he did comply. Tears on his old telegraph key and that golden telegraph key tarnished that sad day.

As best as I can remember it seemed like decades before I saw the old man smile again. I informed him that he had just been inducted into the CW Hall of Fame.

"But I did nothing to deserve it" was his reply. "Oh, yes there have been happy days at the other end of your old telegraph key" I spoke. He smiled at me and a tear fell down his face as he pulled out an old box and pulled out his golden telegraph key of life.

His old friend never let him down and never left him over the decades. I wish I could have said the same about his friend or was it his wife? Sometimes it's only the longtime friends we need the most.

And so was born the Hall of Fame A-1 CW Operator whose soul lives forever.

Some recent Hall of Fame A-1 CW Operators:
<http://members.csinet.net/asimpson/K9CA-01.jpg>

<http://members.csinet.net/asimpson/W5UIP-01.jpg>

<http://members.csinet.net/asimpson/K9CA-02.jpg>

<http://members.csinet.net/asimpson/W5UIP-02.jpg>

Written by Art Simpson, N9AS
based on a true life event.

Photos page 6

Visit the Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society on the Web At
www.qsl.net/kd5sdj
Check out the links, projects, newsletters, severe wx, photos, for sale page and much more.

Hall of Fame A-1 CW Operator



22nd day of October 2003

Date

Arthur L. Simpson
Signed N9AS
TIGB 038464

Hall of Fame A-1 CW Operator

awarded to:



Heinz G.
Broweleit
W5UIP



Outstanding CW Ability and Proficiency

Your nomination into the A-1 CW hall of fame was by a commercial First Class RADIOTELEGRAPH Officer who holds the Gold Key award from 1982 while assigned as Radio Officer on the passenger ship the SS Santa Magdalena, KAAH. You were also nominated by your fellow Amateur Radio Operator Art Simpson, N9AS. You are recognized as an outstanding First in sending CW and perfect Ear coping CW in all kinds of conditions.

This award is only given to those who have been nominated by both an Amateur radio operator and a Commercial RADIOTELEGRAPH operator.

22nd day of October 2003

Date

Arthur L. Simpson
Signed N9AS
TIGB 038464



Novice/Tech Plus subbands. It would not provide additional HF phone privileges for Technicians, however. The FISTS petition would retain a 5 WPM Morse exam for General applicants and raise the Morse exam to 12 WPM for Amateur Extra applicants while increasing the technical level on written examinations for both classes. The FISTS CW Club petition had attracted more than 230 comments by week's end. In all, the FCC had recorded a total of approximately 500 comments on the seven petitions as of October 10. Interested parties may file comments on any or all of these petitions using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>, which also permits users to view

a comments on file. To file a comment, click on "Submit a Filing" under "ECFS Main Links." In the "Proceeding" field, type the full RM number and complete the required fields. "RM" must be in capital letters, and you must include the hyphen between "RM" and the five-digit number. You may type your remarks into a form or attach a file. ECFS also accepts comments in active proceedings via e-mail, per instructions on the ECFS page. To view filed comments, click on "Search for Filed Comments" under "ECFS Main Links" and type in the complete RM number, including the hyphen, in the "Proceeding" field. "RM" must be in capital letters.



I.T.A.R.S. Ham Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
American Airlines Net 9PM 147.000	Gater Trader Swap M & F 3.898 MHz @ 6:00 PM 1st Mon BAARC Meet 7PM 2nd Monday Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society meet 7:00 pm Broken Arrow ARC Net 8:00PM 146.910 SWOT 2 M SSB Net 9 PM 144.250 OKDXA Net 6:30 PM 3.860	Tulsa ARES/ RACES Net 9PM 146.880 3rd Tue Tulsa Amateur Radio Club 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 7:00 PM 4th Tue TRO Meet 7:30PM	Bartlesville ARES Net 8PM 146.760 Pawhuska ARES Net 9PM 146.985 ATV Net 8PM 147.045/421.250/9 13 6 Meter FM Sim- plex net 9 PM 50.590 TESTING Third Wednesday in odd numbered months 7:00 PM Tulsa, Contact Merlin Griffin WB5OSM @ 622- 2277	TARC Thursday night net 8:00 pm 145.110, and the UHF link system 10 meter SSB Net 9 PM, 28.305 If busy net will move up 5 KC to clear freq	Gater Trader Swap M & F 3.898 MHz @ 6:00 PM TARC TTT Net 9 PM 145.110 K5LRS Swap/Sell 8 PM 146.940	TARC YL Net 8PM 145.110 2nd Sat Salv Ar HF Net 8AM 3.900 Last Sat American Airlines Meet 9AM TESTING First Saturday 9:30 AM Broken Arrow Contact Jack Eg- bert N5EOO @ 918.664.1574 TESTING Last Saturday 10:30 AM Catoosa, Contact Don Feigel, N5JK @ 455-6208

**INDIAN TERRITORY
AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER**



**Indian Territory
Amateur Radio
Society**
P.O. Box 548
Beggs, Ok. 74421
www.qsl.net/kd5sdj

*Smoke Signals is the Official
Newsletter of the
Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society*

**Indian Territory
Amateur Radio
Society
Club Officers**

President:

Bill Griffin, NI5X

Vice President:

Tom Moore KD5BOW

Secretary:

Carol Moore, KD5ESM

Treasurer:

Joel Meeks, KC5UGY

***The ITARS club
meeting will be
held at the
Steak and Egg
restaurant in
Okmulgee the
second Monday
of the month at
7:00 pm.
November 10th***

Visit the ARRL
at www.arrl.org



Membership is \$15 (\$5.00 additional family members) per year. Article deadline is the 25th of the month. Articles printed in Smoke Signals may or may not express the view of the club membership or it's officers. The club is not responsible for any articles or ads that are placed in Smoke Signals. Articles may be edited for utilization of space and content. All articles become the property of Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society unless previously copyrighted. Copyrighted articles must have approval of the author before being printed in Smoke Signals. Corrections should be sent to ITARS, at Post Office Box 548, Beggs, OK 74421.

**Membership Application for the
Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society**

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-Mail _____



Year First Licensed _____ License Class and Expiration Date _____ ARRL Member? _____

I, the undersigned, do hereby agree to abide by the Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society's Constitution and Bylaws, the Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations and support the Indian Territory Amateur Radio Society in, the advancement of amateur radio and public services.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____ Type of Membership _____

Dues received, Treasurer _____ Date _____ Amount Paid Dues: _____

\$15.00 Regular Yearly - (\$20.00 family membership) **Also use membership application for change of address.**