



## Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

### February 2010 Newsletter

ZL1AC, Branch 03 NZART 3000 Great North Road New Lynn,  
PO Box 15-122 New Lynn WAITAKERE 0640  
President: Ian Sangster ZL1RCA, Vice President Ross Reddell ZL1VRR.  
Secretary: Roy Milam ZL1WL. Newsletter Editor – John Neill ZL1NE  
VHF Club Net Wednesday 07:30pm 146.525 MHz,  
HF Club Net Fridays 07:30pm 3.623 MHz  
**Website <http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac>**

#### Club Calendar

Monday	8 <sup>th</sup>	February	Club Evening – ZL1VRR ON the Waiheke Wharf to Wharf Running Races and the Waiuku Horse Endurance Event
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	February	HF Field Day
Sunday	28 <sup>th</sup>	February	HF Field Day
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup>	March	Club Evening – Topic to be announced Later
Saturday	20 <sup>th</sup>	March	Used Equipment Auction VHF Group – Date and time to be confirmed.
Monday	12 <sup>th</sup>	April	Annual General Meeting – And Club Evening.

#### February Meeting

The February club Night On the 8<sup>th</sup> will be a talk by Ross ZL1VRR about the Waiheke Island Wharf to Wharf running and walking race and also the Waiuku Horse Endurance Event North Island championship.

#### December Meeting

The Christmas Social was held at the New Lynn RSA on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009. There was a good turnout of club members and partners and we enjoyed a good meal and discussion together.

#### HF Field Day

At this stage there will be no field day team this year as many of the club members are unavailable and so unable to assist. We may only run a single operator station.

#### Sale of Miscellaneous Items

Grant ZL1GSM and Ian ZL1RCA report sales on Trade me of over \$900.00 for goods sold for the club. There is still a small amount of gear to be cleared out of the club rooms. This will be sorted during the next club night for any remaining saleable items. Club members may help themselves to what is left and the remainder will be dumped.

#### QSL Cards

There are a large number of QSL cards awaiting members to collect them from the pigeon hole box. Please pick them up ASAP

#### Waiheke Island Race Wharf 2 Wharf Sat 16th January 2010

Planning started for this event some months before. It was a VHF Branch 66 organised event with other club's helping out. It also was to be held "overseas" with a boat trip to transfer the radio operators to Waiheke Island. Laurie ZL1ICU was the AREC Leader who organised the team and positioned the radio operators on the Island to be able to get messages from locations where cell phone coverage was not available as experienced last year. The Western Suburbs Radio Club STSP repeater was used to provide communications to points all around the island. A site was found on a high spot on the Island by checking with an Auckland Region Map supplied by ALGGi, which gave contours showing the height above sea level. This proved to be very useful in spotting a good site on Trig Hill Road where we could set up the repeater for the race. A number of operators from various Auckland clubs were approached to help. All ground stations had to use hand held radios as they were

all to be transported to their positions by Doug ZL1TTE. Laurie ZL1ICU and I went over on the Friday afternoon and set up the repeater at our chosen site, so that we could test out copy from the various check points which were to be positioned at water stations at intervals along the 25km route. As this was the first time we had used the repeater for this event we were grateful that from all points we were able to get good copy from Orapiu to Matiatia Wharf some 25km up and down hills. A fun-run? There was also shorter runs from Orapiu to Onetangi of 13km length, Onetangi to Matiatia of 12km and from Kennedy Point to Matiatia of 7km for runners under the minimum age for the main races.

Looking at a cross section of the island it goes up and down with a steep inclines and long descents, testing all the runners. The operators were Laurie ZL1ICU and Marlene ZK6EEA, Doug ZL1TTE, Bruce ZK6EEB, Peter ZL1UKG, Ross ZL1VRR, Alan ZL1AUW, Martin ZL3CK, and John a local resident ZL1GWE who was able to give Laurie local knowledge on the terrain on the island which was very useful.

An early start for those back on the mainland to be ferried over on both passenger and car ferries, leaving at 6:00am from Half Moon Bay and Devonport. We had the repeater running early so those on the ferries were able to talk by radio on their progress. They were met at Matiatia by Laurie and Marlene who briefed them and gave instructions on where they were to be dropped off. Once in position they were able to check in with their hand held radio's to base at Matiatia where the race entertainment was also to be held for the end the day's running. Radio checks revealed good communications from all check points. The first race was set to start at 08:30 am with a mass start for the 25km race from Orapiu to Matiatia and Orapiu to Onetangi the 13km race. Martin gave a call to base that the races were under way and as the runners ran over a mat their leg tags activated the timing computers recording the runner's elapsed time. Martin, a doctor rode on his bike as tail end Charlie, stopping at points on the way and making radio calls to base on any injuries to the runners on the course. As the race proceeded the runners came to water stops or drink stations where our radio operators gave reports on progress and the numbers of the competing runners. The day was fine and the sun not too hot. There were no problems with injuries and a good time was had by all. The winner's time was better than previous years. Laurie had good feedback from the race committee.

Betti and I camped over in our motor home on site due to the fact that where we had the repeater was a public reserve at the end of the road, with the locals coming and going to view the sites form the top of the hill. Once the race was over we were given permission to disassemble the repeater, pull down the mast and pack up. The other operators all meet up at Matiatia for lunch and entertainment, before returning to the main land. We stopped off at a local Regional Reserve for a walk in the park. Our ferry was due to depart at 3:30pm where we meet up with most of the operators again for the trip back. On our ferry you had to back your vehicle on and then drive off at the other end. The time for the crossing was just under an hour, passing Musick Point as we proceeded up the Tamaki River to Half Moon Bay.

Laurie was given a letter of thanks for all the effort that was put into the event and the information that was able to be passed on from the radio operators to the organisers at the Race Headquarters.

Report compiled by Ross ZL1VRR ZK6EER



The WSRC Repeater



Really tough some of these AREC Assignments!

## Waiuku Horse Endurance Event Sat Sun 30th 31st February 2010

Over Auckland's Anniversary Holiday weekend the Waiuku North Island Championship Horse Endurance Events were held. Franklin Branch 10 ran the Radio Communications for this event and a number of Auckland Radio clubs came together to assist them at Base and the various check points on the route. The horses and riders took a number of loops to make up distances of 160km, 126km, 103km, 80km, 33km, and 23km, rides. Some of the longer rides started in the early hours of the day, so following the markers on the route was a little hard in the dark. The riders had small lights attached to their helmets to give protection and illuminate the route in the dark. Large fields took part in most events, with a small number of horses having to be pulled out after a vet checks at both base and in the forest checks points along the route. This meant that there had to be twice the number of vets as normal to inspect the horse's conditions at 30km intervals where there was a timed stop of between 30 minutes and one hour depending on the total distance travelled.

The radio operators consisted of Bob ZL1BBZ, Colin ZL3CJS, Doug ZL1TTE, Dave ZL1DK, Murray ZL1BPU, Bruce ZL1TDH, Ian ZL1PZ, Rod ZL1RK, Ross ZL1VRR, David ZL1DJP, and Cliff ZL1RP. (Apologies if I have missed some). Some locations had an operator change mid morning due to the early start. Though the terrain was mainly flat we used the 146.8250 STSP repeater that was perched on a farmer's hill, giving good reception back to base. Base was housed in a farm shed which had to be cleaned out to give room for an operating table for a base rig and room for messages to be placed once received and then written up on an information board for each event running. Also the possibility that if a horse runs late then it can be looked into why they were late. Each operator had a list of the horses to be expected at their station.

On the Saturday we had fine weather all day, but Sunday there were some heavy showers which quickly cleared and then it was fine again. Base also ran a (Personal Radio Service (PRS) system with the start/finish judges to warn the strappers when the horses were approaching the finish, ready for the horses to be washed down and readied for the vets to check the horses to see if they could continue the event. There was also communication with the Vets at the forest base and the vets at the HQ Base. With the early morning start, there were a couple of lighting towers erected to assist with spotting the numbers on the riders. The riders called their number out, so they could be ticked off the start list and as they passed the outpost checks points in the field.

As the last horses returned to Base the repeater was shut down and the last stops changed over to simplex and called in the last few horses while the repeater was being dismantled. All operators packed up as the last horse arrived at the next check and headed to base or home after a great couple of days. All horses were accounted for. Thanks to Franklin Branch 10 for managing the communications for this event.

Report was compiled by Ross ZL1VRR



Bob ZL1BBZ Managing the Communications for the Event



Base Station in the Wool Shed.

## Club Nets

VHF Net 146.525 MHz 7:30pm every Wednesday, HF Net 3623 KHz +/- QRM/QRN 7:30pm every Friday. All are welcome to check in on the nets. The full HF Net Roster can be found on <http://www.qsl.net/zl1ac/wsrc-hf-roster.html>

5-Feb-10	ZL1MW	Brian
12-Feb-10	ZL1NE	John
19-Feb-10	ZL1ACZ	Barry
26-Feb-10	ZL1WI	Roy
5-Mar-10	ZL1VRR	Ross
12-Mar-10	ZL1RCA	Ian
19-Mar-10	ZL1MW	Brian
26-Mar-10	ZL1NE	John

The following articles have been downloaded from Packet Radio

### A-Hiking We Will Go

Last summer, my husband, took me camping for the first time. At every opportunity, he passed along outdoor-survival lore. One day we got lost hiking in the deep woods. He tried the usual tactics to determine direction -- moss on the trees (there was none), direction of the sun (it was an overcast day), etc., etc.

Just as I was beginning to panic, he spotted a small cabin off in the distance. He pulled out his binoculars, studied the cabin, turned and led us right back to our camp. "That was terrific," I said. "How did you do it?" "Simple," he replied. "In this part of the country all the TV satellite dishes point south."

### White House Names Ham as New Cybersecurity Coordinator

On Tuesday, December 22, President Barack Obama named Howard A. Schmidt, W7HAS, as the new White House Cybersecurity Coordinator. According to the White House, Schmidt -- an ARRL member -- is one of the world's leading authorities on computer security, with some 40 years of experience in government, business and law enforcement and "will have regular access to the President and serve as a key member of his National Security Staff. He will also work closely with his economic team to ensure that our cybersecurity efforts keep the Nation secure and prosperous."

In a 2003 interview with The New Atlantis, Schmidt described cybersecurity as "the realization that computer systems affect our basic needs on a daily basis. Electricity, water, telephone -- these things are all run by computers, and my job is to work with owners and operators and government agencies to make sure that they continue to function properly and are not disrupted because of security events that then, in turn, affect our daily lives."

Schmidt told the ARRL that he credits Amateur Radio with getting him involved with technology: "In high school, one of my friends was a ham and he got me interested in shortwave radio, which in turn got me into building shortwave radios and equipment, many from Heathkit. As I got older, I took courses from NRI and Bell and Howell in electronics and built a number of projects, preparing me for my first ham radio ticket. I love technology, and it was Amateur Radio that caused me to build my first computer -- a Sinclair ZX-80 to use for EME calculations. I studied all about the OSCAR systems and would build equipment to monitor when they would pass within range of Arizona. Building these computers to support my ham radio hobby gave me the technical skills that I need to not only start doing computer crime investigations and work on the early stages of computer forensics, in turn enabling me to start working on cybersecurity issues."

Schmidt is no stranger to the White House -- he served as a cyber-adviser in President George W. Bush's White House. After the 9/11 attacks, President Bush appointed Schmidt as the Vice Chairman of the President's Critical Infrastructure Protection Board and as the Special Adviser for Cyberspace Security for the White House. While at the White House, he assisted in the

creation of the US National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace, becoming Chairman in January 2003. In May 2003, Schmidt retired from the White House after 31 years of public service in local and federal government.

#### Schmidt as a Ham

Schmidt has been an Amateur Radio operator for more than 30 years. "I was first licensed in the late 1970s as a Technician class licensee with the call sign WB7NUV," he told the ARRL. "I did a lot on 2 meters, 70 cm and on Packet. The TAPR group out of Tucson was real inspiration to me as I found the work they were doing absolutely wonderful. I started as a part of the Arizona Repeater Association (ARA) and lived for our annual hamfest at Ft Tuthill in Flagstaff."

Back in the 1980s, Schmidt told the ARRL that he tried moon bounce and had "a full shack of RTTY machines -- Teletype Corporation models 15 and 19 and even a model 21. I would spend weekends printing reams of pictures from Ricky, WOCKY, and all of the great TTY pictures he would transmit. I still have my Collins KWM 2A, 312B station console and accessories. While I have not used it for years, it is one of my treasured possessions. Through the years, I had about every type of HF radio made and even have my Collins R-388 and R-390 in a 19 inch rack. I will never forget the day we were able to talk to Southern California on a 2 meter handheld with the repeaters we had from Central Ariz. During the '100 year flood' in Arizona, the community of Rainbow Valley was essentially cut off from the rest of the state to the north when a bridge and power lines were washed away. Using ham radio equipment, we were able to coordinate moving in food, water, medical supplies and generators from the Air Force base I was working at (then Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field) and work with the county sheriff's office to coordinate support."

Schmidt said that as with many other things, his love for Amateur Radio took a back seat to work, family and life in general: "While I got rid of all of my RTTY equipment back in the early 90's, I have continued to follow all of the great advances of ham radio." He said that only just recently, he got back into the hobby after what he called "an administrative error."

"Someone with a call very similar to mine upgraded to Extra class and when the form was sent to FCC, they mistyped one letter and it was my call that was submitted," he explained. "You can imagine my surprise when I received my Extra class license and new call in the mail. When I tried to find out what happened I was told (wrongly) that I was probably 'grandfathered.' I went out and bought an all band/all mode rig, antennas, power supplies, batteries -- everything I needed to outfit my shack. When all was said and done, we got the error fixed, but by that time, I was hooked on Amateur Radio all over again. I am now in the process of doing a room addition to be my new ham shack! I rejoined ARRL and now have room full of new gear waiting for the remodel to be done. Thanks to what I learned from the many hams on Web sites, I even built in PVC pipes through the walls to run my antennas."

#### Schmidt's Rise to Cybersecurity Czar

Schmidt began his government service in 1967 -- starting with a tour in the US Air Force -- both in active duty and in the civil service. After leaving the Air Force in 1983, he joined the Chandler (Arizona) Police Department, serving on the SWAT team and the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Unit; he formed and led the Special Enforcement Team. In 11 years as a local first responder he dealt with numerous issues surrounding emergency response to local incidents. While on the police force, he was instrumental in selecting, designing and the operation of interoperable communications and a public safety response system. Schmidt left the police department in 1994 to join the FBI at the National Drug Intelligence Centre to head up the Computer Exploitation Team.

Schmidt went on to become a Supervisory Special Agent and Director of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations' (AFOSI) Computer Forensics Lab and Computer Crime and Information Warfare Division. In 1996, while serving in that position, he established the first dedicated computer forensics lab in the government, which was the basis for the formation of the Defence Computer Forensic Laboratory (DCFL). In 1997, Schmidt joined Microsoft as the Director of Information Security, Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and Chief Security Officer (CSO), leaving in 2001 to join the White House. When he retired from government service in May 2003, he joined the online auction site eBay as their Vice President and Chief Information Security Officer and Chief Security Strategist.

Throughout his industry career, Schmidt has served as a reservist in the National Guard and Army. He served in the Arizona Air National Guard as computer communications specialist from 1989-1998, then transferred to the US Army Reserves as a Special Agent in the Criminal Investigation Division where he continues to serve with the Computer Crime Investigations Unit at CID HQ. He has testified as an expert witness in federal and military courts in the areas of computer crime, computer forensics and Internet crime.

After Schmidt retired from eBay, he started his own consulting firm, R&H Security Consulting. In September 2008, he took over as President and CEO of Information Security Forum Ltd; he remains CEO until he begins his White House appointment in January 2010. He is also a board member of the Finnish security company Codenomicon, International President of the

Information Systems Security Association and board member of the International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium, commonly known as (ISC). In October 2008, he was named one of the 50 most influential people in business IT by the readers and editors of Baseline Magazine.

Schmidt serves on the Executive Committee of the Information Technology Sector Coordination Council. He is a member of the High Technology Crime Investigation Association, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. He has testified before congressional committees on computer security and cyber crime and has been featured on BBC, ABC, CNN, CNBC and Fox TV discussing cybersecurity, investigations and technology. He is the author of *Patrolling Cyberspace*, *Lessons Learned from a Lifetime in Data Security* and a contributor to *The Black Book on Corporate Security*.

Now that Schmidt has rediscovered how much fun Amateur Radio can be, he has no plans to let his enjoyment pass him by again. "I have my multi-band handheld transceiver next to my suitcase to take back to DC with me," he told the ARRL. "I hope to set up a station once I get settled. I do not plan on letting any more years slip by and not enjoying this great hobby."

Copyright 8 2009, American Radio Relay League, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

### **Ham Radio Operators First to Report Deadly Haiti Quake (27 Jan 2010)**

Amateur Radio Operators or "Hams" were the first voices people heard after the devastating quake in Haiti.  
Reporter: Josh Gauntt

Over the past few days, Charlie Wooten has had his ear on his ham radio. Steadily listening to updates from the devastation in Haiti. He's one of hundreds of amateur radio operators or "hams" in our area. He runs his ham from what he calls his shack at his home. When the 7.0 magnitude earthquake hit Haiti, hams were the first ones to break the news. "Ham radios were on the air within an hour of getting the news about the earthquake," Wooten said.

Communications are still limited, but Wooten has been able to hear a Haitian priest and a U.N. worker on the Salvation Army's amateur radio network. "They want to set up some repeaters, vhf repeaters. They need the radios, equipment, walkie talkies to make that system viable for them to be able to hear in Port Au-Prince," Wooten said.

In Wooten's back yard, you'll find this 70-foot tall beam tower. The tower rotates to find the best signals, giving ham operators like Charlie a way to communicate and provide a helping hand to those who can't be heard. "The equipment is so compact and very efficient and doesn't require a lot of sophistication more than a car battery and a piece of wire to be able to be on the air to talk hundreds even thousands of miles," Wooten said.

Charlie, who worked at Newschannel 7, said back in 1969, he and some of his fellow hams went down to cover Hurricane Camille. He said for ten days, his crew was the only line of communication out of Pass Christian, Mississippi. He calls his work an expensive hobby, but a very important hobby.

Source: <http://www.wjhg.com/home/headlines/81598067.html>

### **Haiti Earthquake - Update No. 5.**

Thursday, 21 January 2010 01:39

One week after the earthquake in Haiti the number of amateur radio operators in the country is growing in support of the relief effort. Radio Amateurs are reminded that the following frequencies appear to remain in use, 14.300MHz, 14.265MHz, 7.045MHz, 7.065MHz, 7.265MHz, 3.720MHz, 3.977MHz. Radio Club Dominicano has also established a repeater in Jiman! (Dominican Republic) repeater 146.880 -600kHz tone 100Hz covering Dominican Republic Border and Haiti (including Port-Au-Prince). This system is linked with 146.970 -600kHz tone 100Hz covering 85% of the Dominican Republic and the west of Puerto Rico.

Individual groups may be operating on other frequencies apart from the Emergency Centre of Activity frequencies due to national requirements to link back to their home organisations. Emergency traffic is most likely on the frequencies listed above but please listen carefully before transmitting and if you hear a station passing emergency traffic then leave the frequency clear and avoid causing QRM.