



Western Suburbs Radio Club Inc.

February 2012 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 - Vacant.
Secretary: Roy Milam ZL1WI. 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

Saturday	11 th	February	Committee Meeting 9am
Saturday	11 th	February	Club Meeting 10am
Saturday	25 th	February	Jock White National Field Day – The Clubs Involvement will be discussed at the club meeting on the 11 th February.
Sunday	26 th		
Monday	27 th	February	Special meeting at Branch 66. To be confirmed but there may be a talk by Paul Wade W1GHZ on Microwave radio. Paul has written a book and microwave information can be found on his website www.w1ghz.org . Check with Br 66 closer to the 27 th to confirm the meeting.
Monday	18 th	April	Amateur Radio Day
Saturday	11 th	March	Club Meeting – Programme to be announced
Saturday	14 th	April	Club Meeting – Programme to be announced

Happy New Year to all Club Members, their friends and associates.

February Meeting

The February meeting on the Saturday 11th will be a business meeting. We plan to organise the Field Day contest, organise our involvement at the Amateur Radio Day and sort out a programme of meetings for the year. If there is any time left we may be able to show a DVD of an Amateur Radio related subject.

December Meeting

The December was dinner at the New Lynn RSA. A good number of members and their partners turned up for an enjoyable meal and a friendly chat.

Increase in Amateur Power Limit

As announced by our President, Roy Symon, ZL2KH, in the November Official Broadcast, NZART is pleased to advise members that Radio Spectrum Management has agreed to our request that the general power limit for Amateur bands be increased. From 30 November 2011, the power limit for most bands will rise from 500 watts to 1000 watts peak envelope power (pX), as defined in ITU Radio Regulation 1.157. The only exception to this increase is for those bands (130 to 190 kHz, 505 to 515 kHz, 26.95 to 27.30 MHz and 921.00 to 928.00 MHz) which currently have lower limits and, in these cases, the current limits will continue to apply.

This is a very satisfactory conclusion to the HBARC Remit to the 2011 NZART Conference and will assist NZ Amateurs to:

- participate in weak signal work including EME, meteor scatter, DXing etc;
- remain competitive, despite our remoteness, when participating in contests.

For further information on licence conditions, please see the updated Amateur General User Radio Licence (GURL) on the RSM website

Don Wallace, ZL2TLL, NZART Administration Liaison Officer

Craw House

A couple of Fridays ago Ian ZL1RCA attended the opening of a farmhouse down Anawhata Road, where branch 03 has been many years ago for field days. The camping area at the rear of the house has a wooden framed roof plus water and toilet. The house is 3 bedrooms, gas cooking and hot water, solar cell and batteries for lighting, possible inverter noise in evenings. The hire house is circa \$135 peak season \$85 off season per night, camping area circa \$10 per night. This could be a possible venue for this year's Field Day.



Craw House



Outdoor Kitchen



Camping Area

World Amateur Radio Day Set for Wednesday, April 18 (From the ARRL Website)

04/12/2011

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) and its more than 160 Member-Societies that represent countries around the world will celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on April 18. The theme for this year's celebration is Amateur Radio: The First Technology-Based Social Network.

Long before the Internet and smart phones, Amateur Radio operators have been talking, texting and sharing for decades. But unlike those commercial services, Amateur Radio continues to attract people world-wide by providing international communications for free. And because it does not need pre-established supporting infrastructure, these radio-savvy "amateurs" can reach out to friends in every corner of the world, as well as into space.

Amateur Radio operators have been the leaders in developing many of today's modern electronic and communications marvels. Today, the citizens of Earth think of "wireless" as being the ubiquitous cellular phone. But this technology is only made possible due to the pioneering work in radio technologies first explored by these "amateurs." Many of our leading electrical engineers draw from their practical experiences as Amateur Radio operators as they continue to develop applications blending computers and radios. Ham radio operators may be "amateur" because they are unpaid volunteers, but their skills and contributions to the world are of the highest order.

"Of course, not just anyone [in the early days of wireless] could hook themselves up to a commercial telegraph wire. While there were private telegraph lines constructed and operated for the personal amusement of their owners, they were not generally able to form networks covering more than a neighborhood," explained ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, in his editorial "Our Social Network" [QST, "It Seems to Us," April 2011, page 9]. "Early telephone operators got to know their customers as well as one another, but their technology-based social network did not extend much beyond a town or city. It was not until the advent of wireless telegraphy that it became possible for individuals to span significant distances and communicate instantaneously with one another without a costly intermediary. Thus was born the first open, technology-based social network -- the one we now call Amateur Radio."

Calling, texting or even using old Morse code on the amateur bands can result in chatting with other radio amateurs across town -- or far across the oceans. While hams have repeatedly been in the news for their life-saving communications services in disasters, a large part of their activities is the excitement and joy of contacting distant and remote areas of the world, learning directly about each others' regions and lives and trying different ways to make radio contacts around the world.

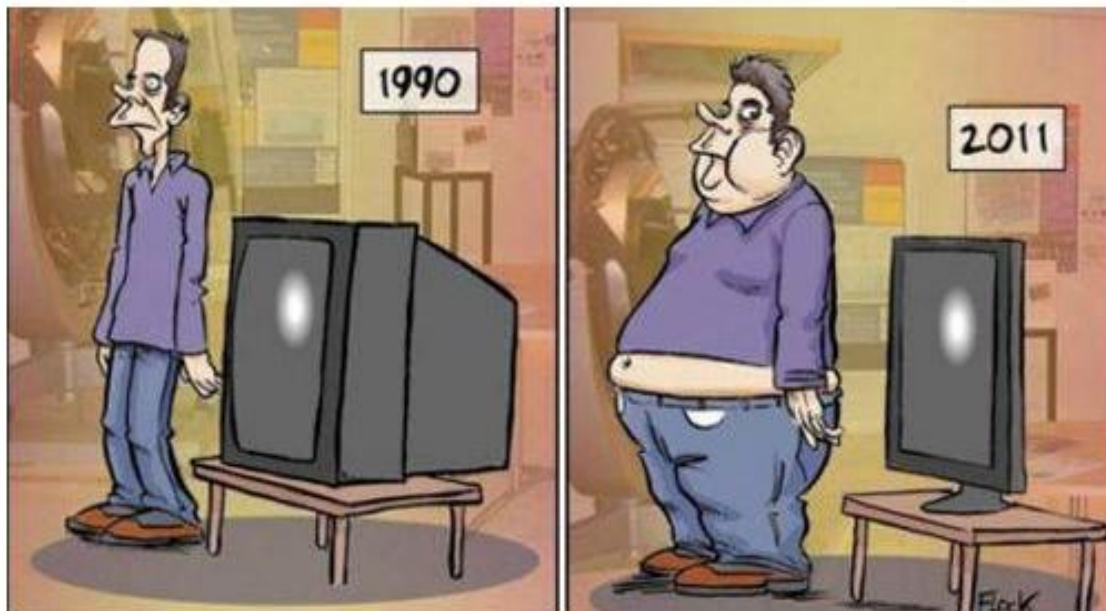
"The social network created and maintained by hams continues to grow, even as the landline telegraph operators who coined the epithet have disappeared," Sumner wrote. "Today there is so much going on in Amateur Radio that it's impossible for one person to take it all in. Just as it isn't possible to interact meaningfully with hundreds of 'friends' on Facebook, even the most dedicated of us must choose among the dozens of subgroups that are pursuing specific interests within Amateur Radio. There isn't even room here to list them all. Experience teaches us that the ones that will flourish are those that actively welcome newcomers, whether they are newly licensed or just new to this particular pursuit. One of the beauties of our social network is that there are no internal barriers; one can move from chasing low-band DX in the winter to microwave hilltopping in the summer, from public service one weekend to a contest the next, from trying out the latest digital mode in the morning to tapping a straight key after dinner."

If your club is planning on celebrating World Amateur Radio Day, please let ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, know via **e-mail**.

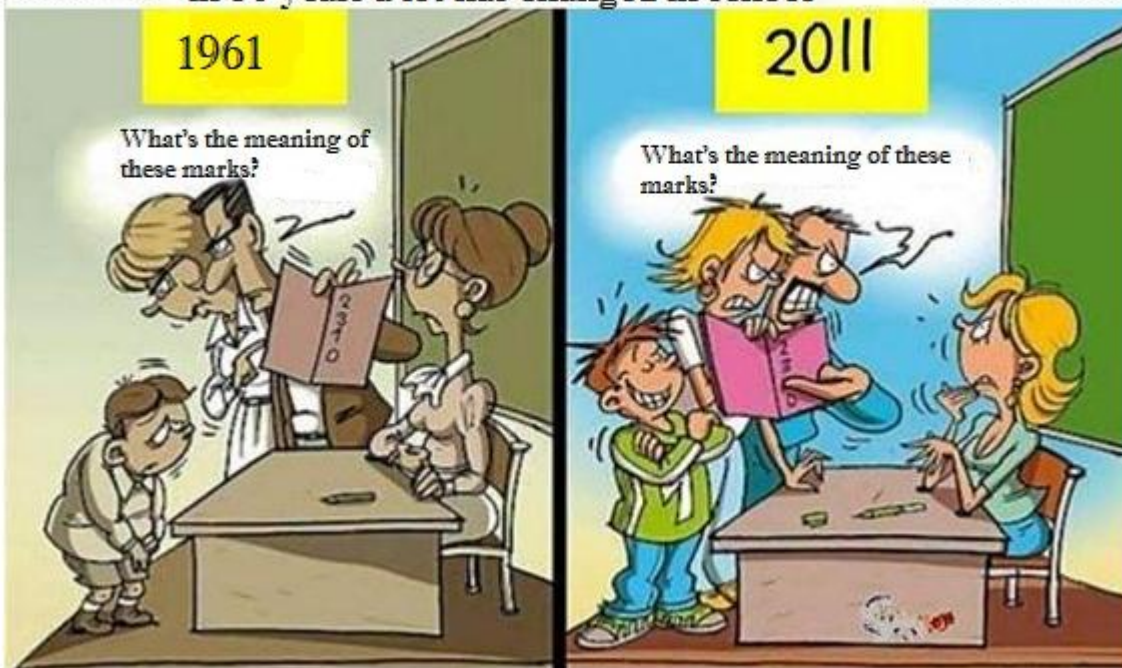
Club Nets

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>

3-Feb-12	ZL1WI	Roy
10-Feb-12	ZL1NE	John
17-Feb-12	ZL1RCA	Ian
24-Feb-12	ZL1MW	Brian
2-Mar-12	ZL1ACZ	Barry
9-Mar-12	ZL1WI	Roy
16-Mar-12	ZL1NE	John
23-Mar-12	ZL1RCA	Ian
30-Mar-12	ZL1MW	Brian
6-Apr-12	ZL1ACZ	Barry



..... in 50 years a lot has changed in school



VHF Repeaters

There have been some changes to the VHF repeaters recently. Notably 146.950 (695) has moved from Mt Te Aroha to Te Weraiti and has been linked with Te Uku 145.675 (5675) also known as the Raglan Repeater. In its new location 695 is not as accessible for many of us on the west side of Auckland but the 5675 repeater is reasonably work. Other linking has also been undertaken giving good coverage around our area. The new map from the NZART Website is reproduced below.

North Island Amateur Radio 6 m & 2 m (VHF) Repeaters 2011-2012

- NOTE 1. The naming system is explained on the map NZ South Island AR ATV and UHF Repeaters 2011-2012
 2. Repeater Offsets are explained on the map Wellington & Wairarapa AR UHF & VHF Repeaters 2011-2012

