

the Milliwatt



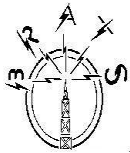
The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O.Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

August, 2005

MARYLAND HAMFEST

AND

COMPUTER FEST



SPONSORED BY
THE BALTIMORE RADIO AMATEUR TELEVISION SOCIETY

SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2005

NEW LOCATION – HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, OFF I-70 at RT. 32

Grounds open for Tailgating at 6:00am

ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED
KIDS UNDER 12 FREE

FREE VE EXAMS at 9:00 AM ONLY, CHECK-IN at 8:30 AM
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

To register call 301-572-5124 between 6 PM and 9 PM, or email creewb3gxw@aol

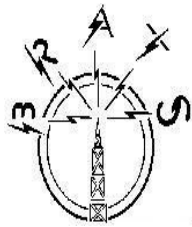
For information contact:

BRATS / PO Box 5915 / Baltimore, MD 21282 --- 410-461-0086 voice or fax

<http://www.bratsatv.org> --- email brats@bratsatv.org

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The July issue of *QST* (page 94) has some errors in the Hamfest listings, including ours. The correct information is in the August issue of *QST*, and is listed above.



the Milliwatt

The award-winning monthly publication of The BRATS.

Items herein may be reprinted with credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

Some Thoughts

If you build it, they will come. We built the BRATS Hamfest at the Howard County Fairgrounds and now, we are back there again. Come on down! See what we can do with a minimum of paid staff. See what hard work does for us. The MDFM Hamfest at the end of May had close to 200 tailgaters. Hopefully we can equal or surpass that. But we need your presence. Not necessarily to work, although that would help, but to be present, to assure a nice turnout and make for a successful affair. See you there!

73, Mayer, W3GXX

The Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society, Inc. P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and a non-profit corporation in the State of Maryland. We belong to and support the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

home page: <http://www.bratsatv.org>

e-mail: mail@bratsatv.org

InfoLine: 410- 461-0086

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Pikesville Library, 1301 Reisterstown Rd., Pikesville, MD.

President: Ed Rosen, N3GXX

Vice Pres: Edward Koritzer, N3DGY

Secretary: Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX

Treasurer: Les McClure, W3GXT

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Chairman of the Board: Heru Walmsley, W3WV

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Vice Chairman, Operations: Ian Millet, N3CVA

BRATS Repeaters

BRATS Linked Repeater System:

WB3DZO: 147.03+, 224.96-, 448.325-

BRATS Stand-alone repeaters:

443.350+

BRATS Packet Network Nodes

W3GXT-5 145.05

W3GXT-10 224.52

BRATS ATV Repeater System:

W3WCQ: inputs: 426.25, 1253.25

outputs: 439.25, 911.25

BRATS Weekly Nets

Mon 9 pm Traffic and Info Net, W3GXX

Tues 9 pm BRATS Horsetraders Net, Grant, KA3CEA

Wed 9 pm BRATS ATV Net

Thurs 9 pm BRATS ATV Net

Fri 11:45 Informal ATV Net, W3WVV (Note change from Monday to Friday)

Sat 1 pm Weekly News Bulletin, W3WGXX

Sat 1:20 The BRATS Answer Men:
W3WVV and N3GXX

As needed Weather/Emergency Net, Skywarn

BRATS Board of Directors

Through 12/05:

KA3IDB, W3ZQI, K3RGG, KD7OQT, KB3FIF

Through 12/06:

N3WJH, N3YI, KB3KYM, KB3LJM, KC3FI

REGULAR BRATS MEETINGS

Second Tuesday of each month,
7:30 pm, at the Pikesville Library
1301 Reisterstown Rd, Pikesville

Next BRATS Meeting

Tuesday, August 9, 7:30 PM, Pikesville Library

DUES :

Regular Membership: \$15

Retired/Disabled/Student: \$10

Entire Family of hams: \$20

Revision to FCC Form 605 could affect some Amateur Radio applicants

Effective Monday, July 11, a revised FCC Form 605, "Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services," goes into effect. The revised form includes a new Question 13 (subsequent questions have been appropriately renumbered) that will affect amateurs applying for an administrative update (AU) to reflect a change in licensee name. Question 13 now asks: "If the licensee name is being updated, is the update a result from the sale (or transfer of control) of the license(s) to another party and for which proper Commission approval has not been received or proper notification not provided?" Amateur Radio Service applicants should always answer "no" to Question 13. Not answering the question—which has nothing to do with the Amateur Radio Service—could result in dismissal of an application. The FCC has indicated that versions of Form 605 prior to July 2005 will be considered obsolete. But the change will not affect the NCVEC Form 605 that VECs and VE teams use.

VANITY CALLSIGN FEES TO INCREASE

The FCC has approved raising the fee for an amateur vanity callsign by \$1.10 for the forthcoming fiscal year. The fee, currently \$20.80 for a 10-year term, will increase to \$21.90. The Commission bases its fees on its anticipated annual costs of processing license applications, but for small fees (such as those for amateur vanity callsigns), it averages those costs over the life of the license term and collects the entire amount up front. The new fee is based on an annual amount of \$2.19 (currently \$2.08), multiplied by the 10-year term of the license. The FCC anticipates collecting a total of \$166,443 in revenue from amateur vanity call applications over the next fiscal year, meaning it expects to receive approximately 7600 vanity applications. The current fees have been in effect since August 10, 2004; the new fees take effect 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

FCC ASSIGNS CALL LETTERS TO ARRL 600 METER EXPERIMENTAL GROUP

The Federal Communications Commission has issued the call letters WD2XSH for the 600 Meter Part 5 Experimental operations to be conducted by the ARRL 600 Meter Experimental Group. The actual grant of license will be done in the normal course of operations by the FCC. In the meantime, it is reported that members of the Experimental Group are melting solder, tuning transmitters, stringing feedlines, and polishing their keys in eager anticipation of the issuance of the license itself, which will allow them to commence operations on 600 Meters. All operations will necessarily adhere to the Part 5 rules and to the proposed plan of research specified in the license application.

US Senate Version of Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005

Introduced (Jun 17, 2005) — A US Senate version of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005 has been introduced with bipartisan support in the 109th Congress. Sen Michael Crapo of Idaho sponsored the measure, S 1236, on June 14. The wording of the bill is identical to the House version, HR 691, introduced earlier this year by Rep Michael Bilirakis of Florida. Joining Crapo as cosponsors of the Senate bill were Senators Christopher Bond of Missouri, Max Baucus and Conrad Burns of Montana, and Daniel Akaka of Hawaii. The bill has been referred to the US Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee of which Burns is a member. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the League is pleased that Crapo has agreed to once again sponsor this legislation at ARRL's urging.

Despite opposition, Boeing says get ready for cell phones in flight

Boeing's Connexion unit expects to offer cell phone service to airline passengers as early as 2006, a top company official said Thursday at the Paris Air Show. "We expect that once the regulatory issues and the social issues are ironed out we'll be introducing that service as well," says Laurette Koellner, president of Connexion by Boeing, which also offers in-flight Web access on several airlines. "We're projecting that to be some time next year," Reuters quotes her as saying. But those "social issues" could backfire against Connexion, possibly making it "Public Enemy No. 1" among frequent fliers. There is widespread opposition by both passengers and airline workers regarding phones on flights — and that sentiment appears to be growing. More than 7,700 individuals, companies, and associations have filed written complaints opposing in-flight cell phone usage, according to The Boston Globe. In fact, after reviewing about 50 of those complaints, the paper concludes "that the public is fervently against the measure." Opponents even suggest that allowing fliers to use cell phones could lead to an increase in air rage. "The introduction of cell phone use in the cabin will not only increase tension among passengers, it will compromise flight attendants' ability to maintain order in an emergency," wrote American Airlines flight attendant Heidi Sakacs. Some good news though, many airlines will likely respect customers' wishes. United, for example, says it doesn't plan to allow cell phones in flight — even if regulators approve it.

High Speed Wireless Internet Access at BWI

High speed wireless internet access for WBNI travelers is now available at all food courts within the Airport: O'Brien's , Charlie's Grilled Subs, c-Concourse Beer Garden, Preakness Lounge and Harbor Lounge. Travelers can purchase, and for a short time borrow a wireless network card at each location. The flexible rate plans for access enable travelers to choose PayPerUse for 25 cents per minute, unlimited daily access for \$7.95 or monthly plans for as low as \$15.95. Customers who have a wireless internet card in their laptop, only need to turn it on and it should find the signal and bring up the wireless server's homepage. The customer then logs on and pays the fee to get access. Wireless Internet is also available at the US Airways Club. For more information, call 877-WISE-321.

New .mobi suffix points to wireless Web sites

AMSTERDAM, July 11 Consumers will soon be able to recognise Web sites specially designed for use by mobile phones by the new ".mobi" suffix, which will be introduced alongside the popular ".com" and other top-level domain names. The new suffix was approved by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers at a Luxemburg meeting on Monday. The first Web sites for mobile devices, which will be fit for a small screen and limited memory and bandwidth, will be ready in 2006. The new domain name was requested by a group of powerful mobile phone operators and handset makers, which set up a joint venture to encourage companies and Web site designers to create mobile Web pages. If more Web pages are optimised for handheld devices, rather than desktop or laptop computers with big screens, these companies hope more consumers will upgrade their phones. "As .mobi will encourage the usage of advanced functionalities in mobile devices, the market potential for those devices will increase," they said in a joint statement. Nokia, Ericsson and others also hope telecoms operators will buy new infrastructure gear to serve those .mobi pages.

TAPR

Lots of interesting articles and stuff at : <http://www.tapr.org> , TAPR Internet Presence upgraded; W7PUA DSP-10 Surface Mount kit; N4XI XIW-2 Outdoor Humidity and Temperature Kit; TAPR Mugs Back in Stock!

Is homeowner entitled to damages from city for permit denial?

By Robert J. Bruss

Mark Abrams is an amateur radio enthusiast. In 1989, he obtained a city permit to install a tall radio antenna at his home. Nine years later, he sought permission to install a second radio antenna. After two public hearings, the city denied his permit application. His appeal to the city council was rejected. In 2000, Abrams sued the city in U.S. District Court under the federal Telecommunications Act for a permit and for monetary damages. Sixteen months later, the federal court ruled the city's denial of Abrams' antenna permit was not supported by substantial evidence because the city could not deny the application for "aesthetic concerns." The city's denial was "an act of spite by the community," the court emphasized as it ordered the city to grant the antenna permit. However, Abrams is not entitled to monetary damages, the U.S. District Court ruled. Abrams then appealed to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. That court affirmed the court order granting the permit to construct the radio antenna, but also ordered the city to pay Abrams monetary damages. The city appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which granted a writ of certiorari. If you were a U.S. Supreme court justice, would you grant Mark Abrams monetary damages for the city's denial of his application to construct an amateur radio tower at his home? The U.S. Supreme Court justices said no! The federal Telecommunications Act is the exclusive remedy for disputes involving wireless communications, the justices explained. Local jurisdictions cannot deny permits based on unreasonable local aesthetic considerations, they continued. Abrams is entitled to construct his antenna at his residence, as approved by the U.S. District Court, they noted. But when Congress enacted the federal Telecommunications Act, there was no provision for monetary damages if a local government agency denies a permit and the applicant must resort to federal court action, the justices emphasized. Therefore, Abrams is entitled to erect his communications antenna but he is not entitled to monetary damages from the city for his expense and delay, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled.

Based on the 2005 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *City of Rancho Palos Verdes v. Abrams*, 125 S.Ct. 1453.

Man refuses 24 'free' tickets from AA – taxes would be \$800 per flight

A man who won a recent American Airlines contest says the grand prize was more like a booby prize. New York resident Jack McCall won the top prize — 12 restricted round-trip tickets for two from the USA to anywhere in the world — as part of an AA contest for its "We Know Why You Fly" marketing campaign. But, of course, the contest fine print states that the winner must pay federal and state income taxes on the "approximate retail value" of the prize. That, according to American's estimation, could come out to as much as \$19,000, based on federal and New York state taxes. Why so much? American valued the 12 pairs of round-trip tickets at \$52,800 — or \$2,200 per ticket. Of course, with the estimated \$19,000 tax bill, McCall would essentially be paying about \$800 for each of his "free" tickets. "I don't know where they got that \$2,200 from," McCall tells *The Wall Street Journal* "I've never spent more than \$1,000 for a plane ticket in my life." McCall says he's refusing the prize, adding that he could get a better deal by buying the tickets as usual. For its part, AA says that it had to settle on the \$52,800 value because the IRS requires to estimate the prizes at their "maximum potential value."

275 laptops, peach-colored bra among items left at LAX

"What do 275 laptop computers, 662 sets of keys and 206 cell phones have in common with a set of dentures, a peach-colored bra and a boxed 'Walking and Dancing Hula Doll'?" That's the question posed in the opening paragraph of a Los Angeles Times story describing some of the more than 12,000 items left at LAX security checkpoints during the first half of the year. And those are just "forgotten" items, not contraband items confiscated by airport security. "At LAX, you'll see just about everything," says Doug Rae, assistant federal security director for screening at the airport.

ARRL warns against spurious, virus-infected emails

Some ARRL members have recently reported receiving e-mail messages that purport to be from ARRL. These messages suggest that the recipient's account has been used to send "a large amount of unsolicited commercial e-mail," that their password has been changed or some other action was going to be taken regarding their arrl.net "account." The e-mail may be signed by "The ARRL Support team" or "The arrl.net team." Some messages also may show up as e-mail bounces from "Postmaster" or "Mail Administrator." These messages, which include a file attachment, are bogus. They do not originate from ARRL, and recipients of such messages should never attempt to open the attached file. Outside of routine correspondence, the ARRL only sends e-mail to members who specifically request mailings, such as W1AW bulletins and The ARRL Letter. Opening the attached file on one of these spurious messages could unleash a nasty computer virus. As a defense against these kinds of viruses, ARRL strongly recommends installing virus-protection software on all personal computers and updating virus definitions on a regular basis.

Let the seller beware!

The ARRL wants to again caution anyone selling Amateur Radio and related equipment via Radios On-Line or QST Ham Ads (or via on-line auction sites or other advertising media) to beware of so-called "advance fee fraud" (or 4-1-9) payment schemes aimed at ripping you off. We continue to receive reports from ARRL members who have received responses to their ads from individuals offering to overpay for goods via bank check with instructions to deduct the cost of their item(s) from the overpayment (typically quite substantial) and return the "change" to the buyer or another individual. The "bank check" is bogus, however, and the seller ends up holding the bag. This is a well-known scam (read this victim's story; there's additional information on the Scam Victims United Web site). Remember: Transact carefully, and protect yourself from fraud!

Send an e-mail from 35,000 feet, and the feds may see it

Travelers may soon get Internet access on many long-haul flights, but the federal government may keep tabs on users' e-mail accounts. The Washington Post (free registration) says federal authorities want "the ability to intercept, block or divert e-mail or other online communication to and from airplanes after obtaining a court order," citing terrorism concerns. "There is a short window of opportunity in which action can be taken to thwart a suicidal terrorist hijacking or remedy other crisis situations aboard an aircraft, and law enforcement needs to maximize its ability to respond to these potentially lethal situations," according to a joint federal filing made by the FBI, Department of Justice and Department of Homeland Security. As you might expect, privacy advocates say they're concerned. "It does sort of make your head snap back," says James Dempsey of the Center for Democracy and Technology, a digital rights policy group. "Basically this is the full ability to control all communications into and out of" a particular area, he says to The Post.

ATV : We Get Mail***DX World***

Well, guys, we have a new tool to use thanks to Bob at DXworld.com: <http://dxworld.com/atvlog.html> . Remember, this page has no cookies or ads and will automatically reload in 180 seconds. If you want instant updates, please use your refresh button. Always try and identify your messages with your call and location. 73, Bob, KA9UVY-TV (Thanks, W3ZQI)

Digital ATV

Perhaps the first digital atv repeater in the world. <http://www.atco.tv/homepage/> (Thanks, W3ZQI)

BT to Launch Interactive TV Services**British Telecom to Use Microsoft Technology to Launch Interactive Television Services**

NEW YORK (AP) — Britain's biggest phone company will use Microsoft Corp.'s technology to launch interactive TV services, joining a crowd of telephone companies around the globe who've allied with the software maker in a bid to compete with cable TV. The announcement Tuesday by BT Group PLC is a boost for Microsoft's so-called IPTV platform after some prominent setbacks and unconfirmed reports of possible glitches and delays. The Microsoft product will be used by BT to deliver video-on-demand and interactive features such as online chat, voting, gambling and video games. But unlike other phone companies such as SBC Communications Inc., BT is not planning to use the IPTV platform to deliver the regular lineup of cable TV channels. Instead, it will be integrating the technology with a free digital broadcast platform introduced by the BBC in 2001, BT said. The deal with BT marks the latest in a series of big customer wins for Microsoft's TV technology among phone companies looking to compete with cable, including three of the four regional Bells in the United States. But the announcement also comes at an opportune time for Microsoft, which has seen IPTV trials with customers in Switzerland and Australia stumble over the past month. In May, Swisscom AG announced it won't launch its IPTV service — IP stands for Internet Protocol — during the second half of 2005 as planned. And last week, Telstra Corp. of Australia revealed it will not be conducting market trials with the software. Microsoft has said both developments are related to factors other than its software.

Higher and higher: HDTV resolution

Just when you thought your home theater was up to snuff, even higher definition TV sets are arriving. Mitsubishi on Thursday unveils the first consumer HDTVs to come to market capable of displaying a format called 1080 progressive — 1080p — considered the high-definition holy grail because it provides twice the resolution of most current sets. The first model available, a 52-inch wide-screen rear projection set at \$3,699, will arrive in stores nationally in the next two weeks. A few specialty 1080p products have already hit the market, but this new set and Mitsubishi's other 62-inch and 73-inch models due in the coming weeks — starting at \$4,200 and \$5,500, respectively — are aimed at the mass market. Each uses Texas Instruments' Digital Light Processing imaging technology and has a built-in tuner that converts current video signals to the higher 1080p standard. "It gives more than twice the resolution and clearer, sharper pictures," says Frank DeMartin, vice president of marketing for Mitsubishi Digital Electronics America. "It's quite affordable and a pretty big leap in performance. Just as the first HDTVs in 1998 initially had little, if any, high-definition content to display, these sets have no "native" 1080p content. However, the sets will convert DVD video and all current TV and HDTV signals. And new high-definition video players and movie discs could arrive later this year; studios and electronics firms are trying to hash out a compromise from the proposed HD-DVD and Blu-ray formats. "What's going to sell these sets is that everything looks better on it, especially DVD. The DVDs you have in your collection right now just pop out like you've never seen before," says Tom Campbell, corporate director of Los Angeles-based Ken Crane's Home Entertainment, which gets an exclusive head start in selling the 52-inch set today. About 15% of U.S. homes have HDTVs, according to the Consumer Electronics Association. Many potential buyers long for flat-panel displays, which are dropping in price. But this higher-quality imaging feature, which is easier for manufacturers to incorporate into rear-projection TVs, could make the larger sets more palatable. At slightly more than 18 inches deep and 121 pounds, the 52-inch set can be considered a tabletop model.

Amateur Radio Begins Podcasting

Podcasting— in which broadcasts are downloaded from the internet for later playback on Ipods— has been much in the news recently. You won't be surprised to hear that there is now an amateur radio podcast. If you have a broadband Internet connection, you may want to give it a try. Type www.podcast.net in your web-browser, and type 'Amateur Radio' in the search field and you will see a list of the latest 'This Week in Amateur Radio International' bulletins. Click on the links and make sure your speakers are turned on.

WAP-enabled Cellphones Access Call Sign Data Base

Wireless Application Protocol is a feature of some of the latest cellular telephones and facilitates internet browsing. RAC is pleased to announce that WAP-enabled cellphone users now may access the Canadian Call Sign Database directly from their cellphone through a site developed by Pontus Hedman – VE3RPH. Simply enter the following URL into your cellphone: <http://www.hedman.ca/cgi-bin/cs>

Please Note

PC and Mac computer browsers expect HTML language and most will reject the WML language required by the cellphone, so don't expect to browse the above site using your computer. If you would like to see how the system operates using a web-based WAP emulator, first note the above URL, click here and enter the above URL into the emulator.

sporadic-E season is here... new lists available

Summer is around the corner in the northern hemisphere. The first good opening on FM-band with sporadic E-propagation is usually a good sign of it. Some good propagation has been noticed around the world on June 1 and June 2. I wanted to remind that we have two lists for FM and TV-DXers in Hard-Core-DX.com. FM: This is a list for active FMDXer. Logs, news, equipment reviews etc and everything related to FMDX is very welcome. TV: The list for TVDXers. You can join these lists through these addresses: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/mailman/listinfo/fm> <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/mailman/listinfo/tv> Or by sending an empty email to fm-request@hard-core-dx.com or tv-request@hard-core-dx.com.

SSETI Express Launch Date

The launch date for SSETI Express and three 'cubesats' has now been confirmed as 25 August, with the next day, the 26th, as a back-up. The satellite has now completed all its pre-launch tests and is presently back in the clean room where everything is having a final checkout and where the cubesats are being loaded into their launchers. Current plans show that the satellite will be packed and ready for dispatch to the launch site during the last week of June. SSETI Express will automatically downlink general telemetry at 9K6 on 70cm and it will also be possible for amateurs to request specific downloads. SSETI also carries a U/S FM voice transponder that was provided by AMSAT-UK.

Hamming it up in a secondhand suit

A surplus Russian spacesuit on the International Space Station will be deployed as a temporary amateur radio. The idea was conceived by Russian members of a group of radio hams called Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (Ariss). "SuitSat" will be made of an outdated Orlan spacesuit stuffed with electronics and a DVD of artwork by American schoolchildren. The electronics were given by Ariss to Nasa last week, and will be delivered to the ISS by Russian cosmonauts. SuitSat will then be thrown into orbit later in the autumn during a space walk. SuitSat will beam down a regular feed of space suit telemetry, which will allow hams to track its progress. It will also transmit a basic TV image. The amateur radio will only survive a few weeks until burning up in Earth's atmosphere. If all goes well, a second Orlan spacesuit could be made available in 2007.

Ten-Tec Co-Founder Al Kahn, K4FW, SK

Albert R. "Al" Kahn, K4FW, of Cassopolis, Michigan, died June 15. He was 98. An ARRL member, Kahn— with Jack Burchfield, K4JU, co-founded Ten-Tec following his retirement from Electro-Voice, which he'd also founded and served as president. Kahn remained a member of the Ten-Tec Board of Directors until his death. Kahn's daughter, Carol Bieneman, said her father had continued his regular CW schedules with his old friends until just a few days before he died.

WA7BNM Contest Calendar	
July 23–24	Great Lakes Sweepstakes
July 23	VK/ Trans Tasmanian 160m CW
July 30–31	RSGB IOTA Contest
Aug 6–7	10–10 Int'l Summer Contest, SSB Lighthouse Weekend QSO Contest
Aug 6	European HF Championship
Aug 6–7	ARRL UHF Contest North American QSO Party, CW
Aug 7	RSGB RoPoCo 2 SARL HF Phone Contest
Aug 13–14	WAE DX Contest, CW MD DC QSO Party
Aug 20–21	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest Keyman's Club of Japan Contest North American QSO Party, SSB New Jersey QSO Party
Aug 27–28	ALARA Contest Hawaii QSO Party SCC RTTY Championship YO DX HF Contest Ohio QSO Party
Aug 28–29	Kentucky QSO Party
Sept 3–4	All–Asian DX Contest, Phone IARU Region I Field Day, SSB RSGB SSB Field Day
Sept 3	Wake Up! QRP Sprint AGCW Straight Key Party
Sept 4	DARC 10–Meter Digital Contest

John Paul II Award – Official Website

Visit <http://iz8ajq.altervista.org> and you can see the picture of the award dedicated to Pope John Paul II and the list of issued awards.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, K. K2MET, The Metropolitan 222 Amateur Radio Society, is sponsoring a September 11th Memorial Station on Governors Island, New York, (IOTA NA-026), on September 10 from 11AM until 4 PM local, 1500– 2000Z. Look for the station on 7250, 14250 and 21340. QSL via W2SN.

ARRL DX BULLETIN

SVALBARD, JW. Oyvind, LA2TOA is QRV as JW2TOA until November. QSL to home call.

SYRIA, YK. Hikmat, YK1AM is QRV from Damascus and has been active on 20 meters after 0300z. QSL direct.

ASCENSION ISLAND, ZD8. Ian, G8WVW and his family are living here until March 2006. He plans to be QRV as ZD8I and active on 80 to 6 meters using SSB. While here, he may try to visit the Falkland Islands. QSL via G4LTI.

MALAWI, 7Q. Kato, 7Q7PF has been QRV on 10 meters between 1400 and 1500z. QSL via LA7PF.

ZAMBIA, 9J. James, 9J2CA has been QRV on 20 and 17 meters using CW around 0430z and then from 1400 to 1600z. QSL via G3SWH.

CHAGOS ISLAND, VQ9. VQ9ZZ has been QRV using PSK31 on 20 meters around 0300 to 0500z. QSL via N1ZZZ.

AFGHANISTAN, YA. Johnny, LA5IIA is QRV as T68G until March 2007 while working here with UNICEF. Activity is during his spare time and is on 160 to 30 meters using mostly CW and digital modes. QSL via LA4YW.

ALGERIA, 7X. 7W1ASF has been QRV on 20 meters SSB between 1530 and 1900z. QSL via 7X2DD.

DJIBOUTI, J2. UA4WHX, Vladimir, is QRV as J20VB and has been active on 40 and 20 meters between 1945 and 2015z. QSL via operator's instructions.

LEBANON, OD. Naim, OD5LN has been QRV on 80 meters between 1945 and 2015z. QSL via operator's instructions.

EGYPT, SU. Gab, HA3JB will be QRV as SU8BHI from July 1 to December 31. Activity will be on all bands using CW, RTTY, SSTV, PSK and some SSB. He will also participate in all the major upcoming contests. QSL direct to home call.

GABON, TR. Alain, TR8CA has been QRV on 80 meters around 0330z. QSL via operator's instructions.

IRAQ, YI. YI9YTG, operator Tom, WB9YTG, is now active on 20 meters. He has had a few QSOs with North America but is hearing mostly Russia and other Europeans.

HAMFESTS

Sunday, July 24: W. Friendship, MD **BRATS MARYLAND HAMFEST and COMPUTER FEST**, Howard County Fairgrounds, 410-461-0086 (147.03/R)

Sunday, August 7: Berryville, VA Winchester Hamfest; Clarke County Fairgrounds, Berryville, VA (146.82/R)

Sunday, August 14: Westminster, MD CCARC Tailgate Fest., Carroll County Agr. Center, Westminster. (145.41/R) Joe, N3YIM, 410-848-3946.

Sat/Sun, Sept. 10-11: Gaithersburg, MD FARFEST (Gaithersburg Hamfest), Montgomery County Fairgrounds (146.955/R) Free VE Exams at the Marriott. Bill Dobson, N3WD, 410-526-2154

Sat/Sun, Sept. 17-18: Virginia Beach, VA Virginia Beach Hamfest & Electronic Flea Market, VA. Wesleyan College, 1584 Wesleyan Dr., Virginia Beach.
<http://www.vahamfest.com> (146.97/R)

Sept 23-25 Digital Communications Conference by TAPR-ARRL, Santa Ana, California. See <http://www.tapr.org> or <http://www.arrl.org>

Sunday, October 16 Sellersville, PA RF HILL ARC Hamfest, Firehouse, Sellersville PA (145.31/R)

Sunday, October 30: Westminster, MD. CCARC's Mason-Dixon Hamfest. Carroll County Agr. Center, Westminster. (145.41/R) Shirley, KB3KYJ, 301-829-8791

REMEMBER TO RENEW! If you received a letter re: June or July expiration of your BRATS membership, PLEASE renew NOW!!! Thanks!

NOTICE: If you know of any hamfests or VE Exams not listed here, please let us know by sending us an email ... Thanks!

milliwatt swap shop

ads are free and get results!

Send ad to: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915
Baltimore, MD 21282-5915, or email
to mayerzimmerman@verizon.net

FOR SALE: The famous W3GXX low band station. ICOM 730 xcvr. , PS 15 p/s, Bencher BY2, MFJ 900 EconoTuner, MFJ 481 Grandmaster; National NC183 rcvr., HyGain 14AVQ. Make reasonable offer for everything. Do it before I dontate all the equipment to JHS22. 410-786-6839; w3gxxk@verizon.net

AUDIO CONVERSIONS. Your records and cassettes converted to CD. High quality A-D conversions of your recordings to digital form. I can also make short run duplications of your CD's for your band or office projects. Call Scott, KB3JQQ at 410-615-2434 or via email at: KB3JQQ@yahoo.com Also, I do operating system reloads and virus/spyware removal. Computer repairs since 1986. A+ certified.

2005 BARC VE Exams

At the BARC Clubhouse:
12360 Owings Mills Blvd. Owings Mills
Saturdays: Aug 6, Sept 3, Nov 5, 2005
Sundays: October 2, 2005
Register at 1 pm, exams at 2 pm
Call Rusty, N3WKE, 410-247-0578 or email n3wke@arrl.net
(Thanks, Russ, N3YI)

2005 Aero Club Exams

At White Marsh Library: July 24, Sept 24, Nov 19
Register at 1pm, Exams at 1:30pm
Contact Frank, AC3P 410-687-7209 or email AC3P@arrl.net
(Thanks, Neil, W3ZQI)

Other Club Exams

2nd Saturday, 1 PM, Davidsonville, by AARC. Register 12 noon. Bob, AA3RR, 410-437-8193
3rd Saturday, 9 AM, Laurel, by LARC, 384 Main St. John Creel, WB3GXW, 301-572-5124.
4th Tuesday, 6 PM, Linthicum. At Historical Electronics Museum. Harold, WB4OGP, 410-757-0493(h); 410-712-6829(w)

milliwatt swap shop

ads are free and get results!

Send ad to: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915
Baltimore, MD 21282-5915, or email
to mayerzimmerman@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Heathkit Security Sentinel GD-3810, \$20. Kenwood MC520DM hand mike, back lite, numbers, \$20. Power Kraft table saw w/ base and rollers, \$75. Companion jig saw, 15" throat, \$40. New 3-ton Olympia chain hoist, \$75. WWII hi-power antenna tuner, VAC variables, roller inductor, \$120. Azden DM headphones, new in box, \$15. Telex C1320, \$15. Bush Clevite, \$15. Panasonic adapter BC1031C, \$45. P/S: 13.8VDC @20 amps \$40. Table mount rack cabinet, \$5. Complete UHF repeater system with 2 Motorola Hand-holds, 1 mobile charger, \$150. W2IHY 8-band Audio equalizer, noise gate, \$175. Call Ted, W3OWN, 410-668-5580. Please leave message if you get answering machine.

FOR SALE: ATV equipment, PC Electronics TX23-11 1 watt transmitter on 1253 MHz, PCEL TVC 12G \down converter. Both new and unused but on my shelf for a long time. Asking \$250 for the transmitter and \$75 for the converter, both for \$300. Ron, W6VCF.
rolney@thegrid.net

FOR SALE: ICOM 706MKIIG, ICOM IC 718, Yaesu CPU 2500-r, Kenwood 950sdx, Astron R35A, Mirage B 3016, SGC SG-500 Amp. Palstar WM 150M, Dell P III laptop. Best offer. popularc@hotmail.com or call Ball and Ball in Laurel, 301-490-1587.

WANTED: AC Gilbert erector sets; old, new, large, small, need not be complete. CASH paid. Lewis, 410-296-4874

WANTED: Your ad for this space. *MILLIWATT* want ads are free and get results. Send your ad to w3gzk@verizon.net

VTS – VIDEOTAPING SERVICE

Video/DVD duplications, video tape transferred to DVD. One source up to 2 hours, \$30. Standards, conversions. Call VTS toll free at 1-877-891-1002. BRATS member Bob Shapiro, K2MYS <http://www.videotapingservice.com>

JADE COMPUTERS, LLC

1009 Ingleside Ave, Baltimore, MD 21228. Phone 419-719-1246; Fax 410-719-9494. Your answer to custom built PC, office and home networking. Reseller for Net Integrity server, cable modem, DSL, webpage design and hosting POS and networking. We do CPR to your CPU. Kid tested, mother approved. Order PC on line: <http://www.jadecomputers.net> email: joed@jadecomputers.us

Antique Radio Repair, Restoration

Eric, WA3TAD, Audio-Visual Service / Retro Radio, 3401 Chestnut Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21211. 410-467-3620; wa3tad@comcast.net

Radio Consignment Shop at Overlea Hobbies

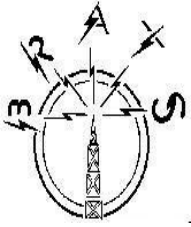
8411 Harford Road, Parkville, 410-665-3622. Home of fine trains, model kits, x-acto, cars, planes, ships, many radios. Yaesu FT101ZD, Kenwood TS 820S, 930S, Heathkit SB-102, National NC-183, more ... Dick, N3JWN, 410-488-2806

WANTED: Sangean 818/Radio Shack DX-390 Portable short wave rcvr. Must be in very good condition. Call Marv, N3BQA 410-685-6308

WANTED: Ride to and from hamfests. Will contribute toward gasoline. I live in Baltimore City. Marv, N3BQA, 410-685-6308.

FOR SALE: GE Superadio, Model 7-2800B ... \$25. Ge Superadio 3 ... \$30. Both in very good condx. Prices are firm. Marv, N3BQA, 410-685-6308

FOR SALE: ADI AR-146 2-mtr mobile rig. Very dependable, includes mounting bracket, lighter plug adapter, magmount antenna, \$125. Yaesu FT50R dualband 2-mtr/440. Scans from 76 MHz to 999 MHz (less cell). Extra battery, CA-15 charger, ear/throat mike, over shoulder harness, regularly \$330. Sell for \$275. Contact Russ for either or both rigs: n3yi@yahoo.com



the Milliwatt



The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O.Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

August 2005

To join The BRATS or to renew, *please use the form below!* Thanks!

ATV Net Changes

If you have not already noticed, please note that The BRATS ATV Net, formerly held on Monday at 11:45 AM, has moved to Friday at 11:45 AM. The Wednesday and Thursday evening 9 PM Nets remain the same ... Please join us!

UTAH ATV

Lots of projects and links:

http://www.ussc.com/~uarc/utah_atv/utah_atv.html

(Thanks, Scott, KB3JQQ)

ATV NETS

Brats Nets:

Wednesday and Thursday, 9 PM:

Rotating Net Control

Friday at 11:45 AM, W3WVV

Homepages

BRATS

<http://www.bratsatv.org>

HATS (Houston ATV Society)

<http://www.hats.stevens.com>

Black Mountain AQTV Repeater

<http://www.w6yx.stanford.edu>

Kent Amateur Radio Society, K3ARS:

<http://www.k3ars.org>

NEXT BRATS MEETING

Tuesday, August 9, 7:30 PM

At the Pikesville Library

1301 Reisterstown Road

Other Radio Club Meetings

QCWA

Monday at Noon, Cactus Willie 7315 Ritchie Hwy, Glen Burnie
3rd Thursday, 1 PM: Old Country Buffet, Joppa Road at Satyr Hill
Last Wednesday, 1 PM: Denny's Bel Air Rd at Putty Hill

AARC: 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 PM

Davidsonville Family Rec. Center, Queen Anne Bridge Rd, Wayson Rd (147.105R)

AMRAD: 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM,

Dolley Madison Library; 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. McLean, VA (147.21/R)

BARC: 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 PM

12360 Owings Mills Blvd (near warehouse) Owings Mills, MD (146.67R)

CARA: 4th Tuesday,

Gateway Center, Rm 401, 6751 Gateway Dr. Columbia South off Rt 175 (147.135/R)

BRATS Membership Renewal: Regular=\$15; Retired/Disabled/Student \$10; Family \$20

Name _____	Call Sign _____	BRATS No _____
Address _____	City/State/Zip _____	
Phone _____	Email _____	

MAIL TO: BRATS, P.O.Box 5915, Baltimore, MD 21282-5915
