

the Milliwatt



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

October, 2005

Comment deadlines set in FCC "Morse code" proceeding

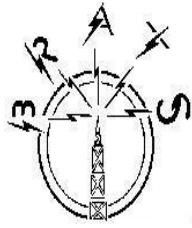
The deadline to submit comments on the FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235, released July 19, is October 31. Reply comments are due November 14. The NPRM&O, which proposes to do away with the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for all license classes, turned away several other petition requests, including proposals to create a new entry-level license class. Comment deadlines are established by the NPRM&O's publication in the Federal Register, which occurred August 31. To file on-line comments on the FCC NPRM&O in WT Docket 05-235 or to view others' comments in the proceeding, visit the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). Interested parties also may submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal. People with disabilities may contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc) by e-mail FCC504@fcc.gov or telephone 202-418-0530 or TTY 202-418-0432. For additional information, contact William T. Cross, Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, 202-418-0680; TTY 202-418-7233. Alternative formats are available for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), via e-mail request FCC504@fcc.gov or by calling the Consumer and Government Affairs Bureau: 202-418-0530, TTY 202-418-0432. An FCC Report and Order in this proceeding is not likely until late 2005 or early 2006.

AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS FILLING COMMUNICATION GAPS IN GULF REGION

Hundreds of Amateur Radio operators from the Gulf Coast and elsewhere in the US continue to volunteer their skills and expertise as the Hurricane Katrina relief effort heads into its third week. ARRL Section Managers (SMs) and Section Emergency Coordinators (SECs) across and around the affected region have been teleconferencing daily to keep their efforts on the same page. In the field, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and other volunteers are assisting as needed to support communication for relief agencies as well as for state and local government and even the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Louisiana SEC Gary Stratton, K5GLS, says Amateur Radio was the only means for state officials at the state emergency operations center (EOC) in Baton Rouge to communicate earlier this week with the so-called "Florida parishes" above Lake Pontchartrain.

October BRATS Meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 7:30 PM Pikesville Library
Special Program and Speaker: Jeremy Bair, K2ORX
on IRLP: *What is it? How it works. How is it different from EchoLink?*
Interactive demonstration, bring your HT.



the Milliwatt

The award-winning monthly publication of The BRATS.

Items herein may be reprinted with credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

Some Thoughts

Ham radio has done much to help in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. As of this writing, the FCC has not declared a communications emergency, but has asked to keep frequencies clear within 5 Kc of emergency nets. The ARRL Web Extra has several other interesting stories. The Washington TIMES (9/5/05) has a story entitled "Ham voices relay calls for rescue". Check it out. (Thanks, K3BAZ) Another matter: don't miss the talk by Jeremy, K2ORX on IRLP. I would like to find out what it is and how it works. We hope you will join us for the October 11 BRATS meeting...

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, N3GXH

Vice Pres: Edward Koritzer, N3DGY

Secretary: Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX

Treasurer: Les McClure, W3GXT

Webmaster: Laura Faussone, KB3LJM

Chairman of the Board: Heru Walmsley, W3WV

Vice Chairman, Technical: Mike Dees, N3EZD

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 N3GXH

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, October 11, 7:30 PM, Pikesville Library

DUES :

Regular Membership: \$15

Retired/Disabled/Student: \$10

Entire Family of hams: \$20

ARRL DIRECTOR/VICE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS SET

There will be contested elections for ARRL Director and Vice Director seats in three divisions for terms beginning next January 1. In two other divisions, the incumbent Director and Vice Director are running unopposed and have been declared elected. Balloting for Director will occur in the Atlantic, Great Lakes and Midwest divisions. Balloting for Vice Director will take place in the Atlantic and Great Lakes divisions. In the Atlantic Division: Current Vice Director William C. Edgar, N3LLR, faces a challenge from Scott J. Bauer, W2LC, for the Director's seat. The winner will succeed Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, who is not seeking reelection to another term. Competing to replace Edgar on the back bench are Maryland-DC Section Manager Thomas J. Abernethy, W3TOM, and Thomas G. Valosin, WB2KLD.

FCC Sets Aside Maine Amateur's License Renewal

The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) has set aside its grant of license renewal to Glenn A. Baxter, K1MAN, of Belgrade Lakes, Maine. According to correspondence the FCC released this week, the WTB took the action soon after it had granted Baxter's renewal application, received on July 22 via the W5YI VEC.

"The application has been set aside for enforcement review," Associate Chief of Licensing Operations Tracy Simmons told Baxter in a July 25 letter from the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office. Simmons said the WTB took the action in accordance with 47 CFR §1.113(a). That section says: "Within 30 days after public notice has been given of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority, the person, panel, or board taking the action may modify or set it aside on its own motion." Baxter's Amateur Radio license is set to expire October 17, 2005.

In early June, the FCC issued a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* proposing to fine Baxter \$21,000. In the NAL, the FCC alleges that Baxter has violated several sections of the Part 97 Amateur Service Rules. The list includes rules proscribing interference with ongoing communications, transmitting communications in which he has a pecuniary interest, failure to provide information the FCC requested, engaging in broadcasting, and failure to exercise control of his station.

The FCC has not yet affirmed the NAL by issuing a *Forfeiture Order*. In his June 12 reply to the NAL, Baxter denied "any apparent liability for forfeiture in the amount of \$21,000 or any other violations of FCC rules, state law or federal law." His response also cited the fifth and sixth amendments of the US Constitution and requested "all documentation regarding the alleged apparent liability and criminal violations" to prepare a defense.

On July 31, Baxter responded to Simmons' setaside notification to assert that the FCC had "intentionally violated my constitutional rights of due process" by not renewing his timely filed renewal application. Baxter asserted his "legal position" to continue operating K1MAN indefinitely, until a final legal determination in the case.

NCVEC Question Pool Committee announces new schedule

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has announced that the Question Pool Committee (QPC) has adjusted its schedule for revising Amateur Radio examination question pools. This decision was prompted by recent FCC announcements, changes in radio communication technology and recommendations from VECs. "The QPC feels it is imperative to produce a new Technician Class pool now to better position the Amateur Radio Service for growth in the years ahead," the QPC said in a statement released September 9. "The new schedule impacts previously announced release dates for all three question pools." The Technician class (Element 2) pool now tops the schedule and is due for release in January 1, 2006, effective July 1, 2006. General class (Element 3) pool updates, previously scheduled to become effective on July 1, 2008, will be released December 1, 2006, and become effective July 1, 2007. The Extra class (Element 4) pool originally scheduled for 2005, will be released on December 1, 2007, and will become effective July 1, 2008. Barring any major rules changes, subsequent updates to all pools will follow the traditional four-year cycle, the QPC said. Selected by representatives of the 12 VECs attending the NCVEC's annual conference, the QPC consists of Chair Jim Wiley, KL7CC, Anchorage VEC; Perry Green, WY1O, ARRL VEC, and Larry Pollock, NB5X, W5YI VEC. A team of associates representing various VEC organizations as well as experts selected from the amateur community will assist the QPC. Interested persons are encouraged to submit questions to the NCVEC QPC via the NCVEC Web site.

New airport radar will help avoid repeat of Concorde crash

Vancouver airport will next year become the first in the world to operate a new radar system that can detect the smallest piece of debris on a runway with pinpoint accuracy, officials said. Vancouver International Airport, on Canada's west coast, has bought four Tarsier radar units developed by British company QinetiQ following the Concorde crash at Paris Charles de Gaulle airport in July, 2000 which killed 113 people. The disaster was blamed on a piece of metal that fell off another passenger jet, punctured a tire and caused secondary damage. The Tarsier, based on high-resolution millimeter wave radar, is able to detect material the size of a 2-inch bolt to within 10 feet, at a range of up to 1.5 miles. It can also tell if the item is made of metal, plastic, glass, wood or animal remains, said Craig Richmond, Vancouver International Airport Authority's vice-president of operations. Once computer software identifies the item, a global positioning system is used to direct airport staff to its location to clean up the debris, he said. Currently, checking for debris is done manually — staff walk up and down runways with a broom and a dustpan. Prone to human error, the method is also time consuming and expensive if it delays incoming or outgoing flights, Richmond said. Vancouver International airport hosted the first full trial of the Tarsier system in 2004. It has since been tested at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, London's Heathrow airport and at a US Air Force base in Texas. Richmond said that during tests, the Tarsier detected flocks of birds and a plastic water bottle at night that was more than half a mile away. The system costs about \$1.2 million but Steve Brittan, managing director of QinetiQ Airport Radar, believes it will become invaluable as the cost from debris damage and resulting delays around the world is about \$4.0 billion dollars a year. "And, the safety of life argument is the most compelling (reason) of all," he added. The radar system is part of a \$1.2 billion dollar expansion of Vancouver airport, which expects up to 100,000 people per day during the 2010 Winter Olympics and plans to upgrade facilities to accommodate the Airbus 380, the world's largest jumbo, by 2009. In 2005, the airport expects 16.4 million travelers, rising to 21.1 million in 2010.

Two U.S. airlines add surveillance cameras

JetBlue and SunCountry Airlines have installed surveillance cameras on their jets that will allow pilots to monitor passengers. The airlines say the cameras are part of an effort to avert a 9/11-style hijacking. The Washington Times reports they could aid pilots in a situation where knowing what's happening in the main cabin could determine how to react in a crisis. For example, The Times cites the 9/11 commission report, which speculates that "perhaps the terrorists stabbed the flight attendants to get a cockpit key, to force one of them to open the cockpit door, or to lure the captain or first officer out of the cockpit." In that situation, proponents say cameras could help pilots maintain the upper hand.

Boeing 787 lavatories will have a 'view'

The next time you use an airplane lavatory, don't be surprised if you get a window seat. Yes, that's right! Boeing plans to offer "restrooms with a view as standard equipment" on its new 787 jetliner model, according to the Akron Beacon-Journal. That move comes as airlines increasingly turn to aircraft amenities to stand out from competitors, and more in-cabin perks are likely in the future. Airbus promises the A380 "superjumbo" jet will set the bar for amenities. The massive plane designed to hold 550 or more passengers will give airlines options to install passenger showers, duty-free shops and a "sort of flat-panel waterfall." Even the manufacturers of smaller planes are getting in on the act. Regional jet-maker Embraer is touting what it calls a "double-bubble" design that allows it to add more headroom than on previous regional-jet models. Of course, the improved amenities end at legroom. It's up to the airlines to decide how to configure their seating arrangements and the airlines say it costs them revenue for every extra inch of legroom they add.

AMSAT-NA 2005 Symposium Falls Victim to Katrina

AMSAT-NA has announced that it's canceling the 2005 AMSAT Symposium, which had been set to take place October 7-9 in Lafayette, Louisiana. The AMSAT-NA Board of Directors made the difficult decision during a teleconference session September 6.

Katrina radio public service announcement available!

ARRL is making available a 30-second radio public service announcement (PSA) to highlight that ham radio has been on the air throughout the Hurricane Katrina crisis, passing emergency communications when other systems failed. Dozens of stations across the country already are playing earlier ARRL "mini-commercials" for ham radio, and the numbers keep growing. You can help by listening to, then downloading, the latest PSA <http://www.arrl.org/pio/ARRLkatrina.mp3> from the ARRL Web site here onto a CD and taking it to your local radio stations. To download the MP3 file, right click on the above link and choose "Save Target." The latest 30-second PSA was made possible by Johnny Donovan at WABC (770 AM) and Howard Price, KA2QPJ, of WABC-TV (Channel 7), both in New York City.

"When All Else Fails" graphic available:

Responding to a member's suggestion, ARRL is making available its graphic on the theme of "When All Else Fails... Amateur Radio." The image is available in several sizes and can be found on the ARRL Web site logos page <http://www.arrl.org/logos/>.

Sirius thinks outside the car, adds portable device

Sirius Satellite Radio said Thursday it will introduce a small portable device for its subscription radio service that can store 50 hours of music, news and programs from Sirius channels. The device, roughly the size of a deck of playing cards, underscores the trend of the converging consumer electronics devices, specifically satellite radio with digital music players. With the success of Apple Computer's iPod digital music player, many consumer electronics makers have been looking for ways to add digital music as a feature on other devices such as cell phones and other handheld devices. Sirius' device comes a month after Korea's Samsung Electronics said it will sell a digital music player that can receive satellite signals from Sirius' larger rival XM Satellite Radio Holdings. XM also has a deal with Napster to start a service that allows users to buy music they hear on XM stations. The automotive market accounts for the vast majority of satellite radio usage. The device, dubbed the S50, will have a suggested retail price of \$359.99. XM subscribers outnumber Sirius subscribers more than 2-to-1, but Sirius has been investing heavily in programming, including expensive contracts with shock jock Howard Stern and the National Football League.

New software makes podcasts mobile

A California company is hoping to tap into the growing podcasting craze with software that enables mobile phone users to stream audio files directly from their home computer. Podcasts are recorded audio files downloaded over the Internet. They can be stored on computers or transferred to digital music players like Apple Computer Inc.'s iPod. The software from Los Angeles-based Pod2Mob promises to enable mobile phone users to hear podcasts on their handsets, too. Currently available for free as a "beta" test download, the software runs on Windows and Mac OS computers. The software relays the audio to a mobile phone. An applet, or small computer program, that must be loaded on the handset allows users to control which podcasts they want to hear. The company says streaming data requires less memory than downloading the full audio file. "If you have a phone, you don't have to wait to sync," said Brad Zutaut, co-founder of Pod2Mob. "You can get the latest podcasts on the fly." But quality can vary depending on the computer's Internet connection, said spokesman Phil McGovern. The company said the software should work on most Internet-enabled handsets, though it has been tested only on handsets running on the Sprint and Cingular wireless networks.

Attention All Amateurs ... **Sign up for The ARES E-Letter**

Since 9/11, interest within the Amateur Radio community in emergency communication and public service has greatly increased. More than ever, hams are volunteering to help meet the communication needs of our nation, states and communities. The ARES E-Letter is a response to this expanding awareness. Anyone with an interest in emergency communication or public service activities can sign up online to receive The ARES E-Letter. Each issue will contain a wealth of after-action reports, editorials, technical tips, news and views—information you'd otherwise have to wait for in QST. Timeliness, utility and inspiration are the goals of this informative publication that's devoted entirely to Amateur Radio emergency communication and public service.

BPL at HQ: ARRL Cooperating in BPL System Experiment

BPL has come to ARRL Headquarters, and preliminary indications are that the newly installed Motorola Powerline LV system will prove Amateur Radio-friendly. Motorola approached ARRL last fall seeking input on a BPL design that could avoid many or most of the interference problems that have plagued some other BPL systems. This past May, Motorola introduced its Powerline LV wireless-to-low voltage BPL solution at the United Telecom Council's "Telecom 2005." The ARRL said at the time that it was "encouraged" by Motorola's approach but reserved judgment until it had the chance to see a system up close. A Motorola Powerline LV system was put into operation at Maxim Memorial Station W1AW this week.

Industry Canada Calls for Public Consultation to Establish Rules For Certifying BPL in Canada

Industry Canada (IC), with Canada Gazette notice SMSE-005-05 dated July 30 2005, has initiated the public consultation process for the introduction of BPL in Canada. This consultation will decide the process by which BPL will be introduced in Canada, including the development of a new certification standard (ICES-00x) for medium voltage powerline carrier systems. The IC consultation paper gives interested parties 120 days to reply. RAC will reply to this consultation paper directly to IC and through the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC), of which it is a member. The RABC is an association of Canadian radio spectrum user associations, sponsored in part by IC, and used by IC to consult with industry when developing new standards and spectrum management policy. The consultation paper will be handled by RABC's Electromagnetic Committee (EMC), which has appointed RAC's VP Regulatory Affairs, Jim Dean VE3IQ, a member of the RABC Executive, as chairperson of a Working Group (WG) to prepare the RABC's response. Joe Parkinson VE3JG, who has been handling the BPL file, will represent RAC on the WG. **RAC is not against BPL; it is against the interference to radio services created by BPL**, and looks forward to this consultation process as an opportunity to have an input into the certification standard. RAC's representative on the RABC WG will aggressively push to ensure the concerns of the Amateur Service are addressed in the RABC response. RAC will also express these concerns in a response directly to IC. All comments on the questions in the consultation paper should be addressed to Joe Parkinson c/o the RAC office 720 Belfast Road, Suit 217, Ottawa ON K1G 0Z5 Attn: BPL Team or direct via email to ve3jg@rac.ca or gparkinson@rogers.com. The RABC WG expects to commence meetings in early August with a completion deadline of early November. Comments should be sent as soon as possible and must arrive prior to November 1 to be considered in the formulation of the RAC response to IC. For details, see the Canada Gazette notice at http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf08279e.html

Report: Google ready to walk the walk with text, voice IMs

Google (GOOG) is planning to introduce its own instant messaging system, the Los Angeles Times reported Tuesday, marking the expansion by the Web search leader into text and voice communications. Citing unnamed sources "familiar with the service," the Los Angeles Times said that Google's instant messaging program would be called Google Talk and could be launched as early as Wednesday. Google Talk goes beyond text-based instant messaging, letting users hold voice conversations with other computer users, the newspaper quoted a source as saying. A Google spokeswoman declined to comment on the company's product plans. If confirmed, the combined computer text and voice service would put Google in competition with a similar service pioneered by Skype, which has attracted tens of millions of users, especially in Europe, to its own service. Separately, independent journalist Om Malik on his blog at <http://gigaom.com/> pointed to technical clues that suggest Google is preparing to run an instant messaging service based on an open-source system known as Jabber. Jabber technology would allow Google instant message users to connect with established IM systems that also work with Jabber, including America Online's ICQ and Apple Computer's iChat, Malik said.

FCC Morse code decision would not affect CW subbands, privileges

Any FCC decision to eliminate the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for HF access would have no impact on either the current HF CW subbands or on the CW privileges of Amateur Radio licensees. The FCC is currently accepting comments on its Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235, released July 19, which proposes to do away with the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for all license classes. "There seems to be a lot of confusion on these points, judging by the questions I've been getting," said John Hennessee, N1KB, of the ARRL Regulatory Information Branch. He emphasizes that the proceeding does not put forward or recommend any changes in CW allocations or privileges. He further notes that the FCC also has not proposed to extend HF privileges to current Technician licensees who have not passed a Morse code examination. The Commission's NPRM&O suggests that in a no-Morse-requirement regime, such Technician licensees would be able to gain HF access by taking the Element 3 General class written examination. To file on-line comments on the FCC NPRM&O in WT Docket 05-235 or to view others' comments in the proceeding, visit the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). An FCC Report and Order in this proceeding is not likely until early 2006.

Higher Amateur Radio vanity call sign application fee now in effect

The application fee for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign rose to \$21.90 effective for applications received on or after Tuesday, August 23. The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) released a new Fee Filing Guide this week spelling out fees for services it regulates. In a Report and Order and Order On Reconsideration (R&O) in the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 released July 7, the FCC raised the vanity application fee for FY 2005 from \$20.80 to \$21.90 for the 10-year license term. The FCC said it had adjusted FY 2004 "payment units" for each service to better reflect expected FY 2005 payment liabilities. The fee went up from \$16.30 to \$20.80 a year ago. A reevaluation in the number of anticipated vanity call sign applications—or "payment units"—accounts for this latest fee hike. The FCC says it anticipates 7600 vanity applications—up only slightly from a year earlier. More information on vanity call signs is available on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org>

Powerful Solar Flare Disrupts HF Communication

One of the largest solar flares on record occurred today (Sep 7) as a very active solar region 808 produced a powerful X17.1 flare—a "severe" or R4 event on NOAA's R1 to R5 scale. NOAA's GOES-12 satellite observed the flare at 1740 UTC. R4 events typically occur about eight times during each 11-year solar cycle, and today's was the fourth largest in 15 years.

ARRL included in 2005 Combined Federal Campaign

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) has informed ARRL that the League has been deemed eligible for inclusion in the 2005 CFC National/International list. This means federal government civilian employees, postal and military donors can designate their CFC pledges to the ARRL during the campaign season, September 1 to December 15. The League's CFC donor code is 9872. Federal employees who participate in the CFC can donate all or part of their CFC contribution to the League to support ARRL's efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio. Some private-sector employers also match donations their employees make to ARRL, while others will donate to the League if you volunteer your time—as an Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteer, for example. To learn how to donate to various ARRL funds, visit the Support Amateur Radio and ARRL Web page. For additional information, contact ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, mhobart@arrl.org; 860-594-0397; fax 860-594-0259.

SPECIAL EVENTS ON THE AIR

GB2RS Celebrates 50 Years

The Radio Society of Great Britain is planning a series of celebratory news broadcasts to mark the 50th anniversary of its GB2RS news service. The broadcasts will start on 25 September 2005 – exactly 50 years after the first GB2RS transmission was made by G6MB – and continue at regular intervals over the subsequent five weeks. To mark this special occasion, the RSGB is hoping to include a greeting from its patron – HRH, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh – within the broadcasts. The RSGB has also requested that communications regulator Ofcom allows the society to use a special event station callsign – GB50RS – during the celebratory period.

ICOM SUPPORTS HAM COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR

Icom is lending its support to a special event celebrating the Bi-Centenary commemoration of the Battle of Trafalgar. This by supplying most of the gear to a special event station which is being run by the Cray Valley Radio Society. The station will operate from the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich in South East London for an 8-day period from October 17th to the 24th. Icom will provide the main operating equipment comprising four base stations providing the means for the team to communicate worldwide. The battle of Trafalgar fought in 1805 is considered by many as one of the most decisive naval engagements in history, both tactically and strategically. It not only eliminated Napoleon's plans to invade England, but also destroyed French naval power and ensured the dominance of the British navy throughout the world. The Cray Valley Radio Society is no stranger to operating high profile special event stations. The club manned the highly successful Millennium special event station M2000A, making 48,000 QSOs in two months. For more details of the society, please visit www.cvr.org on the World-Wide-Web. (Icom America)

ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service to add spam filtering, virus scanning

The popular and free ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service will get even better starting in early September. In response to users' requests, the ARRL E-mail Forwarding Service will be adding spam filtering and virus scanning on messages sent to <call sign>@arrl.net addresses for forwarding to League members' established e-mail accounts. Best of all, the service will continue to be available to ARRL members at no additional cost. The ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service provides members with a uniform e-mail address that remains the same even if they switch e-mail service providers. A switch in vendors has made it possible for ARRL to include these important new features, which will help to reduce the amount of spam that arrives via ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service addresses as well as provide members an additional layer of protection from malicious, virus-laden messages. "Unfortunately, no single spam or virus filter is guaranteed to catch 100 percent of undesirable e-mail traffic," cautions ARRL Chief Financial Officer Barry Shelley, N1VXY. "Everyone should always protect their own personal computer with appropriate security software, but these new features should help reduce the amount of spam and viruses our members taking advantage of this service have to deal with." The new features are being made possible through a switch to Interbridge, the League's corporate Internet Service Provider. This means members using the ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service now will get the same spam filtering and virus scanning League Headquarters receives from Interbridge. Currently more than 65,000 ARRL members and clubs use the ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service. Members can sign up for this service by visiting the ARRL Members Only Web Page and clicking on "The ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service."

DXCC Desk approves operations for DXCC credit

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved these operations for DXCC credit: KH9/AH8H, Wake Island, for operations in 2003 and 2004; TT8BZ, Chad, March 31–August 23, 2005; 5X1B, Uganda, August 3–12, 2005. For more information, visit the DXCC Web page <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>. "DXCC Frequently Asked Questions" can answer most questions about the DXCC program <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/faq/> ARRL DX bulletins are available on the W1AW DX Bulletins page <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/dx/>

October, 2005

the Milliwatt

Page 9

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

- Sept. 24–25
 CQWW DX Contest, RTTY
 Tesla Cup
 Scandinavian Activity, SSB
 Texas QSO Party
 AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- Sept. 25
 UBA ON Contest, 6 mtrs.
- Oct. 1
 TARA RTTY Sprint
- Oct. 1–2
 Oceania DX Contest, Phone
 California QSO Party
 UBA On Contest, SSB
- Oct. 2
 RSGB 21/28 MHz, SSB
 EU Autumn Sprint
- Oct. 5–7
 YLRL Anniversary Party, CW
- Oct. 6
 SARL 80m QSO Party
- Oct. 8–9
 Makrothen RTTY Contest
 Oceana DX Contest, CW
 PA QSO Party
- Oct. 9
 FISTS Fall Sprint
 NA Sprint, RTTY
 UBA ON Contest, CW
- Oct 10
 10–10 Int'l 10–10 Day Sprint
- Oct 14–16
 YLRL Anniversary Party, SSB
- Oct 15–16
 JARTS WW RTTY Contest
 Worked All Germany Contest
- Oct 16
 Asia–Pacific Fall Sprint, CW
 UBA On Contest, 2 mtrs.
 RSGB 21/28 MHz, CW
- Oct 16–17
 Illinois QSO Party
- Oct 22–23
 ARCI Fall QSO Party
- Oct 29–20

ARRL DX BULLETIN**OMAN, A4.**

A43JS has been QRV on 20 meters between 1915 and 2300Z QSL via A47RS.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6.

Abdullah, A61Q is usually QRV on 160meters using CW around 0155z. QSL via EA7FTR.

ETHIOPIA, ET.

Michal, ET3TK has been QRV on 17 meters using CW around 1440z and then 40 meters CW around 1800z. QSL via OK1CU.

ANTARCTICA.

Gustavo, LU1ZD is QRV from General San Martin Base on Barry Island, IOTA AN–016, and has been showing up on the Antarctic Net at 1900z. QSL via operator's instructions.

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS.

Mario, LU1ZI is QRV from Teniente Jubany Station on King George Island, IOTA AN–010, and has been showing up on the Antarctic Net at 1900z. QSL via LU4DXU.

SUDAN, ST.

Jovica, T98A is QRV as STORM during his one–year UNHCR assignment here. Activity is on all bands, using mostly CW, with some SSB and digital. QSL via T93Y.

MICRONESIA, V6.

Nobi is QRV as V63NB and has been active on 30meters around 1200 to 2000z. QSL via JA1JCF.

PAKISTAN, AP.

Ijaz, AP2IA has been QRV on 15 meters around 1500z. QSL to home call.

ETHIOPIA, ET.

Station ET3TK has been active using RTTY at various times. QSL via OK1CU.

PHILIPPINES, DU.

Jon, DU9/N0NM is usually QRV using CW on 160meters just before 1000z. QSL via W4DR.

DJIBOUTI, J2.

J20VB is usually QRV on 40 or 30 meters using CW around 0100 to 0300z. QSL via UA4WHX.

MARSHALL ISLANDS, V7.

Neil, V73NS is usually QRV on 160 meters around 0900z. QSL via operator's instructions.

NORFOLK ISLAND, VK9N.

Kirsti, VK9NL has been QRV on 15 meters around 2300z. QSL direct only.

ALGERIA, 7X.

7X0RY has been active using RTTY on 30 meters around 1930z and 17 meters around 1500z. QSL via OK1DYW.

CQ WW DX Contest, SSB
10-10 Int'l Fall Contest, CW
Oct. 30
FISTS Coast to Coast Contest

ETHIOPIA, ET.

ET3TK has been QRV on 20 meters using CW between 1440 and 2100z. QSL via OK1CU.

FRENCH GUYANA, FY.

David, FY/F0CRS and Freddy, FY/F5IRO are QRV for the next four months. QSL both calls via F5KIN.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8.

Mike, VP8NO has been QRV on 30 meters around 0030z. QSL via operator's instructions.

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO, YU.

Special event stations YU15ARDF and 4N15ARDF are QRV until December 31. QSL both calls via YU1SRS.

CROATIA, 9A.

Roger, 9A/ON4TX is QRV from Prezba Island, IOTA EU-016, until September 11. Activity is on 40 and 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

October, 2005

the Milliwatt

Page 10

ARRL DX BULLETIN*Continued from previous page***UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6.**

Ghis, ON5NT is QRV as A6/ON5NT and has been active on 17 meters using CW and SSB around 1545 to 1645z. QSL to home call.

GUINEA-BISSAU, J5.

Gianfranco, J59OFM has been active on 15 meters using SSB around 1600z. QSL via IZ3BIY.

WESTERN SAHARA, S0.

Mahfoud, S01MZ has been QRV on 40 meters around 2145 to 2330z. QSL via EA1BT.

SUDAN, ST.

Dane, S57CQ is QRV as ST2T and is here for about a year. QSL via S57DX.

ASCENSION ISLAND, ZD8.

Ian, ZD8I is here until June 2008. QSL via G4LTI.

Hamfests and Conferences**September 23-25**

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

Saturday, September 24:

Bensalem, PA Courtyard Marriott, 3327 Street Rd. Mid Atlantic States VHF Conference Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club, Jim, WA3EHD 215-659-4359. jantonacci@worldnet.att.net

Sunday, September 25:

Wrightstown, PA Hamarama by Mt Airy VHF Club Ed, WA3DRC packrats_w3ccx@yahoo.com (Note: there is an underscore between packrats and w3ccx above)

Sunday, October 2:

W. Friendship, MD CARA Hamfest at the Howard County Fairgrounds 410-553-2652 (147.135/R)

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

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 donate all the equipment to JHS22. 410-786-6839; w3gxx@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Heathkit Linear Amplifier SB-220 with very low time matched pair of Eimac 3-500Zs \$600; Heathkit HM-102 RF Power Meter with attached antenna selector \$40; ACI AC-20 Linear for 2 meters \$20; Alinco 110 2-meter transceiver can be base or mobile \$100; Astron RS20M 13.8 VDC, 20 Amp power supply \$60; Kenwood TS-690 S 160-6 meter transceiver with hand mike and power cord \$400; Ameriton ATR-15 Antenna tuner 1500 Watt RF, 1.8-30 MHz \$80. All in good working order. Call Jerry, KB3AP, 410-484-2460, kb3ap@netzero.net.

VE EXAMS**2005 BARC VE Exams**

At the BARC Clubhouse:
12360 Owings Mills Blvd. Owings Mills

Saturdays: 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: 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)

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

***IF YOUR DUES ARE DUE,
DON'T FORGET TO RENEW!
DO IT NOW! Thanks!***

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)

October, 2005

the Milliwatt

Page 11

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: 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

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

WANTED: Your ad for this space. MILLIWATT want ads are free and get results. Send your ad to w3gzk@verizon.net **ATTENTION:** if you do NOT want your ad to run again, please send me an email to that effect. Thanks! mayerzimmerman@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

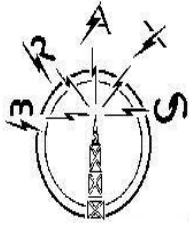
Radio Consignment Shop at Overlea Hobbies

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

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. <http://home.comcast.net/~convertrecords/>

FOR SALE: Special! ICOM BC-110A battery charger, output DC 12V 200mA, for ICOM T8A or similar, used only twice. Cost \$46 new, plus shipping. Will sell for \$30. Misplaced it, ordered a new one, then found it! Call Mayer, W3GXX, 410-786 or email w3gzk@verizon.net



the Milliwatt



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

October 2005

BRATS Public Service

To sign up to participate and help at the next BRATS Public Service activity, please call Ian, N3CVA at 410-303-1412 or email via N3CVA@hotmail.com

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

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, October 11, 7:30 PM
At the Pikesville Library
1301 Reisterstown Road
K2ORX presentation on IRLP. DON'T MISS IT!

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
