



the Milliwatt



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

December, 2006

FCC "Omnibus" Amateur Radio R&O Published in Federal Register, Takes Effect December 15

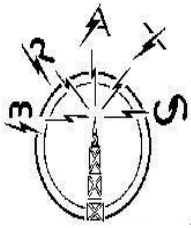
Just a little over a month after the Federal Communications Commission released the Report and Order (R&O) in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) to the public, a revised version appeared today in the Federal Register. **The changes in the R&O will take effect Friday, December 15, at 12:01 AM EST, 30 days after its publication.**

As expected, the Report & Order as published this morning clarified two items that had raised some concerns when it was first released last month: That the 80/75 meter band split applies to all three IARU Regions, and that FCC licensees in Region 2, which includes North America, can continue to use RTTY/data emissions in the 7.075-7.100 MHz band. Still to be resolved are three controversial aspects of the Proceeding: Expansion of the 75 meter phone band all the way down to 3600 kHz (thus reducing the privileges of General, Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees, who had RTTY/data privileges in the 80 meter band, and CW privileges of General and Advanced class licensees) The elimination of J2D emissions, data sent by modulating an SSB transmitter, of more than 500 Hz bandwidth (thus making PACTOR III at full capability illegal), and The elimination of access to the automatic control RTTY/data subband at 3620-3635 kHz. The ARRL Board is discussing the possibility of a petition to reconsider several items in the R&O. For more information, see the band chart [917,715 bytes, PDF] and the Frequently Asked Questions on WT Docket No. 04-140. Both have been updated to reflect the R&O as it was published in the Federal Register.

As of December 15, the 75-meter phone band will begin at 3600 kHz, the 40-meter phone band will start at 7125 kHz and the General Class phone band on 15 meters will begin at 21,275 kHz. **A summary of the new band plans as well as other major features of the ruling appears on page 2 of the December issue of CQ**, which is in the mail now to subscribers, and should be on newsstands soon as well.

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season ...

Come to The BRATS Holiday Party, Tuesday, December 19, 7:15 PM, at the Randallstown Library



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The award-winning monthly publication
of The BRATS.

Items herein may be reprinted with credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season from W3GXX and all of the BRATS!

*Don't forget to join us for The BRATS Holiday Party at
Randallstown Library, 8604 Liberty Road, Randallstown,
MD, Tuesday, December 19th at 7:15 PM ...*

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: 3rd Tuesday, 7:15 PM, Randallstown Library

President: Ed Rosen, N3GXH

Vice Pres: Edward Koritzer, N3DGY

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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 11:45 Informal ATV Net, W3WVV

Tues 9 pm BRATS Horsetraders Net, Grant, KA3CEA

Wed 9 pm BRATS ATV Net

Thurs 9 pm BRATS ATV Net

Sat 1 pm Weekly News Bulletin, W3GXX

Sat 1:20 The BRATS Answer Men: KB3JQQ

Sun 8 pm MATS ATV Net

As needed Weather/Emergency Net, Skywarn

BRATS Board of Directors

Through 12/06:

N3WJH, N3YI, KB3KYM, KB3LJM, KC3FI, K2GZL*

Through 12/07:

KA3IDB, W3ZQI, K3RGG, KD7QOT, KB3FIF,
K2ORX*

*Appointed by the President

REGULAR BRATS MEETINGS

Third Tuesday of each month,
7:15 pm at the Randallstown Library
8604 Liberty Rd at Old Court Rd

Next BRATS Meeting

Tuesday, December 19

7:15 PM, *Randallstown Library*

8604 Liberty Rd. at Old Court Rd.

Annual Elections, HOLIDAY PARTY!

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UK authorities to permit experimental Internet/HF speech gateway

The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) says UK telecoms regulator Ofcom has granted a unique Notice of Variation (NoV) to Steve Richards, G4HPE, to operate an experimental Internet/HF speech gateway. The NoV would allow two-way communication between the Internet and the Amateur Radio HF bands. The RSGB assisted Richards in obtaining the authorization. "The purpose of the research is to explore the many technical and operational challenges that such a system poses for emergency communications," the RSGB said. "It is also hoped that the project will shed light on how Internet-based networks can aid Amateur Radio emergency communications." The NoV is a first in the UK because it allows full frequency agility over the lower HF bands and the use of significant power levels, the RSGB said. According to the Society, the gateway is not intended as a permanent Amateur Radio Service facility and will likely only be operated on a predetermined test schedule. Only Amateur Radio licenses will have access the gateway, which will be fully attended at all times. The International Radio Emergency Support Coalition (IRESC) -- a worldwide group of radio amateurs who use voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) facilities to connect disaster areas to points of support -- also is involved in this project.

First US Contact Reported on 500 kHz

U.S. hams operating under an experimental license from the FCC report making their first two-way contact on 500 kHz. The contact came on September 21, between stations in North Carolina and Tennessee, over a distance of about 300 miles, according to the *ARRL Letter*. One-way reception reports of up to 1500 miles have been recorded. For more about the experiments on 500 kHz, see the Propagation column in the December issue of *CQ*.

Attention All Amateurs...

League Seeks FCC's WRC-07 Support for 150-kHz 60-Meter Amateur Allocation

The ARRL wants the FCC to throw its support behind a Draft Proposal seeking to have World Radiocommunication Conference 2007(WRC-07) delegates consider a worldwide, secondary Amateur Radio allocation from 5260 kHz to 5410 kHz. The ARRL included the request in comments it filed October 27 in IB Docket 04-286, "Recommendations approved by the Advisory Committee for the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference." WRC-07 Agenda Item 1.13 will review allocations to all services between 4 and 10 MHz. The League told the FCC that a contiguous band of frequencies in the range of 5 MHz is an important goal of the amateur community -- domestically and internationally.

ARRL Foundation scholarship application window is open

The application period for ARRL Foundation scholarships remains open until February 1, 2007. The ARRL Foundation has announced the addition of three new scholarships for the 2007 awards: The Zachary Taylor Stevens Scholarship, The Richard W. Bendicksen, N7ZL, Memorial Scholarship and The Gary Wagner, K3OMI, Scholarship. These new scholarship awards bring the total number of ARRL scholarships to 44 -- some providing multiple awards. Following an evaluation of all applications, the ARRL Foundation Scholarship Committee will announce the 2007-2008 academic year ARRL Foundation scholarship recipients next spring. Important: Applicants must include high school or college academic transcripts with scholarship applications. Those applying for the four-year William R. Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship must include a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and a transcript.

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Hint: Riding on the baggage carousel is not a good idea

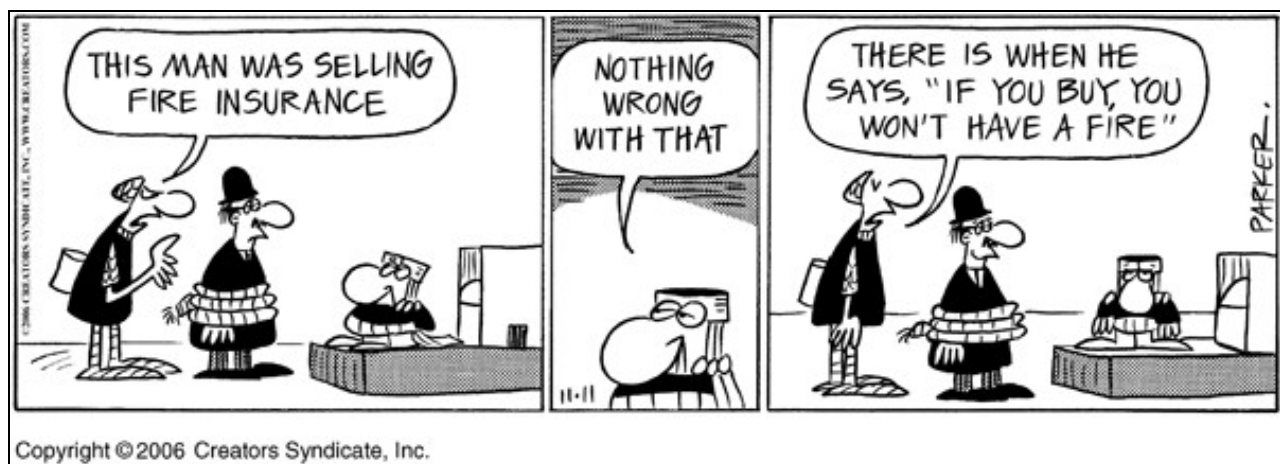
Ever wonder what would happen if you rode on the luggage carousel at your local airport? A New Hampshire 23-year-old decided to find out, and the answer wasn't good. Chris Jackson decided to take a seat on the carousel, which eventually took him out of the baggage-claim area and into a secure area of the Manchester (N.H.) airport. "It turns out [that's] not so funny after all, especially in a post Sept. 11 world," the Manchester Union-Leader writes. Local police Capt. Bill Hart tells the paper that it seems Jackson was just trying to have fun. "It appears it was simply a prank," Hart says. Still, Jackson was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass, and was led off in handcuffs and placed in the back of a police car. He is now free on \$5,000 bail and has been ordered to stay clear of Manchester's airport. He has a trial date scheduled for Dec. 18.

Boston explores Wi-Fi options

Boston's Logan International Airport is among the airports featured this week. Yu writes: "The Federal Communications Commission will soon issue a ruling that could broaden airlines' wireless Internet service at Boston Logan airport. In 2005, the Massachusetts Port Authority, which runs Logan, banned airlines from offering wireless Internet service at their clubs in the airport. Soon after the Massport decision, Continental Airlines, which provided free Wi-Fi at its clubs, petitioned the FCC to overturn the ban. In banning the service, Massport cited security concerns. It said private Wi-Fi networks could interfere with the wireless transmissions used by the airport for operations, and by federal officials for security. Massport's decision came one year after Logan launched its own \$8-a-day wireless Internet service, prompting its critics to complain that the airport was creating a monopoly. 'Logan wants the revenue,' says Craig Mathias, principal of the Farpoint Group, a wireless service research firm."

The cellphones are coming

Dubai-based Emirates Airlines announced today that it plans to become the world's first carrier to have in-flight cellphone service up and running on all of its flights. Emirates hopes to have the service installed on one of its Boeing 777s as soon as January before rolling it out to its entire fleet, the BBC reports. The timing of Emirates' move would appear to trump European discount giant Ryanair, which in August detailed plans to add cellphone, text and e-mail options on its aircraft starting in mid-2007. Ryanair's fleet-wide installation is expected to take until the end of 2008. Permitting cellphone usage in-flight is a hot-button topic among air travelers, with many adamantly opposed to the idea. The Guardian of London writes that "to minimize nuisance, passengers will be encouraged to switch phones to silent or vibrate mode and cabin crew will ensure that phones are switched to text-only mode during night flights." The paper adds that Emirates' service will allow no more than five voice calls at any one time on a single aircraft. Both airlines' mobile plans still must obtain regulatory approval. Closer to home, no U.S. airline has yet confirmed plans to add voice calls.



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Fliers with iPods may soon be able to plug in

Starting in 2007, six big airlines will install iPod connections in their in-flight entertainment systems, Apple said Tuesday. The on-board connection will be available on selected flights of United, Delta, Continental, Air France, Emirates and KLM airlines. The service will be available only in seats that have in-flight entertainment systems in place, typically first- or business-class seats. The planned upgrade, rolled out in a partnership of the airlines and Apple, is the latest development in the increasingly heated competition to offer more in-flight entertainment, particularly to elite travelers. Phil Leigh, an analyst at Inside Digital Media, says the move reflects the airlines' recognition that iPod is "a central component of future entertainment systems." Apple may benefit because the deal gives consumers one more reason to choose iPod over other MP3 players, he says. Available starting mid-2007, the connections would power and charge iPods in flight. They would allow travelers to watch and listen to videos and songs that they brought along, instead of having to watch airlines' programming. It works with regular iPods and iPod Nano, a smaller version of the original. It doesn't work with iPod Shuffle, another less-expensive version. Instead of using the small iPod screen, passengers will be able to watch TV shows or movies on larger seat-back monitors. They range from 7 inches to 23 inches, depending on the cabin class. United plans to introduce iPod connections next year in first and business class in the wide-body aircraft that fly internationally. The Chicago-based carrier will install iPod connections when the planes are put out of service to upgrade its first-class and business cabins. Delta will install iPod connections initially in its Boeing 757s that fly from New York and Atlanta to West Coast cities. The Atlanta-based carrier chose the 48 transcontinental aircraft to roll out the service because their seats, including the ones in coach, have already been equipped with a new in-flight entertainment system. Delta hopes to expand the iPod connection service by 2008 to 767s and 737s that also fly long-haul domestic flights, Delta executive Joan Vincenz says. It hopes to eventually install it on international flights, she says. Continental plans to introduce the service by the end of 2007. While the airline hasn't firmed up its plans on how it will be introduced, it will probably start with the 41 757s that fly internationally, spokesman Dave Messing says.

Japanese CubeSat gets OSCAR number

AMSAT-NA has designated Hokkaido Institute of Technology's HIT-SAT satellite as HIT-SAT-OSCAR-59 or HO-59. The tiny CubeSat launched successfully September 23, and its 100 mW CW telemetry downlink on 437.275 MHz has been copied around the world. HIT-SAT also contains a 1200 bps FM packet downlink on 437.425 MHz. The HO-59 team is seeking reception reports, including audio files. The satellite's call sign is JR8YJT. Once fully operational, HO-59 will permit Earth station operators to request certain parameters by transmitting DTMF commands on the 145.980 MHz uplink. The satellite will report back time/date, temperature and power supply voltages and thank the Earth station by call sign. At this point, only HIT-SAT ground station controllers can access the satellite. The satellite is in a sun synchronous orbit with an orbital altitude of 250 km at perigee and 600 km at apogee and an inclination of 97.79 degrees. HO-59 is a 12-cm square cube weighing 2.2 kg.

VK amateurs may lose 24 GHz amateur satellite band

Changes proposed by Australian regulatory authority could see the VK amateur service lose one of their most important amateur satellite bands. The Australian Communications & Media Authority is proposing to change the Australian radio frequency spectrum plan to accommodate ultra wideband vehicle radar technology in the 22 to 26.5GHz frequency band. If given the go-ahead, this plan would result in Australian radio amateurs losing their primary access to the 24 to 24.05GHz amateur satellite segment and being severely curtailed in experimenting in the secondary access segment of 24.05 to 24.25GHz. The Australian Communications & Media Authority invited comments on the proposed changes to the spectrum and the WIA responded. (Thanks to the Wireless Institute of Australia, VIA RAC)

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Solar flare produces radio shock wave

A solar flare from an emerging sunspot Monday, November 6, between 1740 and 1748 UTC, produced a fast-moving radio shock wave. "It sounded like a freight train," says Thomas Ashcraft, who recorded the burst at his radio observatory in New Mexico and maintains a Web site on audible solar phenomena. Ashcraft says the C8.8 solar X-ray flare caused a moderate-to-strong -- and especially fast -- Type II radio burst event, traveling from the sun at 2230 km per second! His stereo recording of the November 6 event provides solar radio noise on 18.7 MHz in one channel and on 22.2 MHz in the other (headphones highly recommended). SpaceWeather.com reports the sunspot, hidden just behind the sun's eastern limb, is erupting and hurling clouds of magnetized gas high above the solar surface.

Moonbounce experiment 'Project Diana' commemorated

The Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club in the US will put special event callsign N2MO on the air on 14 to 15 January next year to commemorate the first successful moonbounce experiment. This was carried out by the US Army Signal Corps on 10 January 1946 in what was known as Project Diana. The special event station will be activated from the historic Project Diana site at the InfoAge Learning Centre in New Jersey. Ocean Monmouth ARC plans to operate the special event station using ALE, CW, PKS31, RTTY and SSB on the 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10m bands. You can find out more about Project Diana on the web at www.omarc.org Also refer to the article on Project Diana in the May 1946 edition of QST magazine.

AO-51 Satellite Users:

AMSAT-NA has an Operations Group and email address for AO-51 satellite users to submit requests and ideas for the Experimenters Wednesday sessions. The group will also take suggestions for the normal weeklong operational periods as well. Every member of the Operations Group will receive emails from this address. This is your chance, the amateur satellite user, to request from the AO-51 Operations Group the modes you are interested in seeing operated on the satellite during the weekly Wednesday sessions. Do not expect a reply to every email, as there will not be time to respond to each one, but your input will be noted. The email address to send your requests or ideas to the Operations Group is: ao51-modes@amsat.org The AO-51 Operations Group is made up of AMSAT members who are also AO-51 users. The Operations Group works with the Command Team to create the monthly schedule for the satellite. 73 KO4MA For AO-51 Operations Group (KO4MA, WD9EWK/VA7EWK, N8MH, OZ1MY, VK5HI, KE4AZN, WA4SXM)

AMSAT NEWS

<http://www.amsat.org>

AO-51 Nov/Dec Schedule

November 13 to December 4

Normal Mode

FM Repeater, V/U

Uplink: 145.920 MHz FM, 67 hz PL Tone

Downlink: 435.300 MHz FM

9k6 Digital, V/U, PBP BBS

(Pacsat Broadcast Protocol BBS)

Uplink: 145.860 MHz FM, 9k6 PBP Digital

Downlink: 435.150 MHz FM, 9k6 PBP Digital

December 4 to December 8

FM Repeater, L/S

Uplink: 1268.700 MHz FM, No PL Tone

Downlink: 2401.200 MHz FM

December 8 to December 11 New Mode!

Cross Mode Repeater, L(SSB)/U(FM)

Uplink: 1268.700 MHz USB

Downlink: 435.300 MHz FM

December 11 to January 8

Normal Mode

FM Repeater, V/U

Uplink: 145.920 MHz FM, 67 hz PL Tone

Downlink: 435.300 MHz FM

9k6 Digital, V/U, PBP BBS

(Pacsat Broadcast Protocol BBS)

Uplink: 145.860 MHz FM, 9k6 PBP Digital

Downlink: 435.150 MHz FM, 9k6 PBP Digital

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BPL Orders Exceed FCC's Jurisdiction and Authority, League Court Filing Says

The ARRL this week notified the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit that it's appealing certain aspects of the FCC's Part 15 rules governing broadband over power line (BPL) systems. The ARRL Executive Committee ratified plans to go forward with the Petition for Review when it met October 7. The League is asking the court to review the FCC's October 2004 Report and Order (R&O) establishing Part 15 rules to govern BPL systems as well as its August 2006 Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) that dealt with various petitions for reconsideration of the 2004 R&O, including one from the ARRL.

New York Public Service Commission Recognizes BPL Interference Concerns

The New York Public Service Commission (NYPSC) this week adopted a policy statement on deployment of BPL systems in the Empire State. While asserting that BPL technology "may provide significant benefits to New Yorkers," the commission also has acknowledged that BPL "poses a myriad of both traditional and unique technical and regulatory challenges." The policy statement, issued and effective October 18, says that while most BPL providers, equipment makers and vendors believe the FCC's Part 15 rules address interference issues, that was not the consensus opinion of those who commented to the Commission.

Satellite Protection Plan May Affect HF Propagation

A research group in New Zealand is warning of possible dire consequences for HF communications and GPS navigation if the U.S. moves ahead with plans for its "radiation belt remediation" program. According to the ARRL Letter, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is planning to direct extremely high-intensity very low frequency radio waves into the Van Allen radiation belts, in an effort to "flush" particles from those belts into the upper atmosphere. This is part of a plan to try to protect low-Earth orbit (LEO) satellites from radiation damage in the event of severe solar storms or a high-altitude nuclear detonation.

However, researchers at New Zealand's University of Otago warn that all those charged particles falling into the upper atmosphere could cause "unusually intense HF blackouts around most of the world" for up to a week at a time. It also says large-scale disruptions of the Global Positioning System (GPS) would be likely as well. No comment from DARPA.

FCC invites comments on two Amateur Radio rule making petitions

The FCC has invited comments on two Amateur Radio-related petitions for rule making. Both petitioners seek changes in the FCC's Part 97 Amateur Service station identification rules, specifically §97.119(a). That rule now requires stations to identify "at the end of each communication, and at least every ten minutes during a communication . . ." RM-11346, filed December 9, 2005, by Murray Green, K3BEQ, would raise the required ID interval to 30 minutes as well as at the end of each communication. A second petition, RM-11347, filed May 19, 2006, by Glenn Zook, K9STH, would revise §97.119(a) to more closely resemble the old FCC §12.82(a) Transmission of call signs rule. Zook proposes requiring radio amateurs to transmit the call sign(s) of stations with which they are in communication plus their own call sign at the start and end of each single transmission or of a series of transmissions between stations in communication "each transmission of which is of less than three minutes' duration," at least every 10 minutes during a series of transmissions between stations in communication, and at least every 10 minutes during any single transmission more than 10 minutes long. Comments on these petitions are due by November 29. Interested parties may file using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

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ITU to Mark 100 Years of International Radio Regulations

This year marks the 100th anniversary of what became the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radio Regulations, and the ITU will formally celebrate the occasion later this month. The first International Radiotelegraph Conference gathered 29 maritime states in Berlin, Germany, in November 1906 to sign the "International Radiotelegraph Convention," establishing the principle of compulsory two-way coast-to-ship radio communication and aimed at making it free from harmful interference. The annex to that convention contained the first regulations governing wireless telegraphy. Since expanded and revised by numerous radio conferences, these regulations now are known as the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union, or simply as the Radio Regulations.

Radio St Helena ready for transmissions

The famous Radio St Helena short wave station is set to resume worldwide transmissions on Sunday 4 November. The station used to run a special annual Radio St Helena Day when it would go out on shortwave across the world. But the last such transmission took place in October 1999, and at that time it seemed doubtful that Radio St Helena Day would ever take place again. However, a group of radio enthusiasts led by Robert Kipp vowed to revive this unique event, and their hard work is now coming to fruition. Construction is progressing on a new shortwave transmission antenna at the station's base on the island of St Helena in the South Atlantic Ocean. The new antenna will allow the station to transmit on 11,092.5kHz USB. Thanks to the new antenna, Radio St Helena will now be able to continue its annual worldwide transmissions indefinitely. Next year will be an extra special shortwave transmission, as it will coincide with the station's 40th anniversary. You can find out more about the revival of Radio St Helena Day on the web at www.sthelenase.com/radioproject

DXpeditioning Basics available as a free ARRL download

Thinking about going on a DXpedition? Then you might want to check out DXpeditioning Basics, by ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, a DXpedition veteran. The 26 page booklet covers the DXpedition objectives, organization, whom to work, pileup management, QSO mechanics, frustration management, problems, and follow-up. If you have never been on a DXpedition before, this guide will give you some real insight. While DXpeditioning Basics no longer available in print, ARRL offers a [free download](#).

Dueling DXpeditions? Two Groups Set to Descend on Rare Lakshadweep Islands

The second most-wanted DXCC entity, Lakshadweep Islands (VU7) may host two separate DXpeditions during December. A team sponsored by the Amateur Radio Society of India (ARSI) -- the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-society for India -- will operate as VU7LD. A second group, under the auspices of the National Institute for Amateur Radio (NIAR), has announced plans to operate as VU7RG, in honor of the late Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG. While the two DXpeditions would have multiple stations on the air simultaneously on various HF bands and modes for at least the first part of December, the Web sites for the respective DXpeditions do not mention the other's planned operation. The Daily DX (and QST "How's DX?") Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, cautioned this week that the two highly competitive organizations carefully coordinate their on-air activities, if the DXpeditions to avoid chaos.

Australia selects a new 28 MHz calling frequency

Following dialogue with Australian 28 MHz operators, the Wireless Institute of Australia has allocated a suggested 28 MHz national calling frequency of 28390 kHz. "We received good feedback to our request for a suitable frequency" WIA Director, Glenn Dunstan VK4DU said. "The new frequency, which is outside of the DX segment of the band, will provide a focal point for VK 28 MHz operations" Glenn said.

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WA7BNM Contest Calendar

- Nov. 25-26
WW DX Contest, CW
- Nov. 30
ARCI Topband Sprint
- Dec. 2
TOPS Activity Contest
- Dec. 9-10
ARRL 10-Meter Contest
- Dec 10-18
NA High Speed Meteor
Scatter Winter Rally
- Dec. 15
Russian 160-Meter Contest
- Dec 16
OK DX RTTY Contest
- Dec 16-17
MDXA PSK DeathMatch
Croatian CW Contest
- Dec 24
RAEM Contest
- Dec 26
DARC Christmas Contest
- Dec 30
RAC Winter Contest
- Dec 30-31
Stew Parry Topband Challenge

Silent Keys

Stephen E. Uhrig
WA3SWS
October, 2006

Clinton R. (Jim) Spencer
W3BBB

October 24, 2006 Jim was one of the founding members of the Phil-Mont Mobile Amateur Radio Club (63/03 in Philadelphia). He would Always ask if I had a passport to enter Philly and then would make sure I found my way . Of course, we did the same for him. He was 83. We will all miss him ...

Next WRTC to be held in Russia

The next World Radiosport Team Championship will be held in Russia in 2010, the event s management committee has announced. This will be the first time that the event has taken place in Russia. The contest will be held in the vicinity of Moscow in conjunction with the 2010 IARU HF World Championship. (RSGB)

ARRL DX Bulletin

MALDIVES, 8Q.

Michele, IK5ZUI is QRV as 8Q7LM for the next year.

BELGIUM, ON.

UBA Radio Club stations in Belgium may use the ON60 callsign prefix until February 10, 2007 to mark the 60 years of the UBA, the IARU Society for Belgium.

NAMIBIA, V5.

Vlad, UA4WHX is QRV as V51VV using CW and SSB. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

TRISTAN da CUNHA, ZD9.

Brian, ZD9BCB is QRV from Gough Island, IOTA AF-030, until September 2007. In addition, Andy, ZD9BV is QRV From Tristan da Cunha, IOTA AF-030, and is normally active starting around 1730z on 20, 17 and 15 meters. QSL direct.

TONGA, A3.

Willy is QRV as A35AX and is usually active on 20 meters from around 0830 to 1000z and then from around 0630 to 0730z. QSL via ON5AX.

ANGOLA, D2.

Janne is QRV as D2DX and has been active on 20 meters between 2015 and 2145z. QSL via OH2BAD.

CROZET ISLAND, FT5W.

Nicolas, F4EGX is QRV as FT1WM but just on satellites such as AO-51, SO-50, the ISS repeater and PACSAT-1.

GUINEA BISSAU, J5.

Gianfranco is QRV as J59OFM and usually found on 20 meters SSB around 1630z on various days. QSL via I3LDP.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, S9.

Charles, S9SS is normally QRV on 20 meters from around 2100 to 0200z. QSL via N4JR.

MICRONESIA, V6.

JA7HMZ is QRV as V6T1 and has been active using RTTY on 20 meters from around 0630 to 0900z. QSL via JA7AO.

IRAN, EP.

Sadegh, EP3HF has been QRV on 15 meters from around 1000 to 1100z.

SVALBARD, JW.

Math is QRV as JW5NM and has been active on 80 meters around 1100z. QSL via LA5NM.

BELIZE, V3.

Joe, K8JP is QRV as V31JP until early April 2007. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using mostly CW. He will try to be active in some of the upcoming contests. QSL via KA9WON.

BURKINA FASO, XT.

Michael, F1IQH will be QRV as XT2WC beginning November 13. He will be active on 40 and 20 meters. QSL to home call.

Canadian 30 Metre Propagation Beacon

Freq. 10.132.0 MHz **Call** VE3TO/B **Operation:** continuous while attended, but Monday through Friday only (0000UTC Monday to 2400 UTC Friday) **Power Output:** 5 W at present (planning to Increase to 10 W at a later time) ... (RAC)

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NASA Schedules First Live HDTV Broadcast From Space

NASA makes history next week with the first live broadcasts from space in High Definition television (HDTV). NASA, in cooperation with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, Discovery HD Theater and Japanese broadcast network NHK will produce the broadcasts on Nov. 15. Two live HDTV broadcasts will feature Expedition 14 Commander Michael Lopez-Alegria on the International Space Station, with Flight Engineer Thomas Reiter serving as camera operator aboard the 220-mile-high laboratory. The broadcasts will be carried by Discovery HD Theater and NHK. Discovery HD Theater will carry the special broadcast live at 10:30 a.m. CST and will be shown at Discovery Channel stores. "HDTV provides up to six times the resolution of regular analog video," said Rodney Grubbs, NASA principal investigator. "On previous missions, we've flown HDTV cameras but had to wait until after the mission to retrieve the tapes, watch the video and share it with the science and engineering community, the media and the public. For the first time ever, this test lets us stream live HDTV from space so the public can experience what its like to be there." Known as the Space Video Gateway, the system transmits high bandwidth digital television signals to the ground that are not only spectacular, but also valuable to scientists, engineers and managers. NASA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, along with both NHK and Discovery, are cooperating in this effort though a Space Act Agreement originally signed in 2002. The equipment to record and downlink HDTV signals was delivered to the station by the Space Shuttle Atlantis crew in September. It includes a commercially manufactured camcorder, viewfinder, lenses and power cables, an HDTV signal decoder, processor and hard drive, and power and data cables. For more information about the International Space Station and the Expedition 14 crew, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/station>

VE EXAMS

BARC VE EXAMS

At 12360 Owings Mills Blvd, Owings Mills.
Sat., Dec. 2, 2006
Sunday, January 7, 2007
Sat. Feb. 3; Sat., March 3
Sunday April 1 at Timonium
Sunday, May 6 Sat. June 2;
Sunday, July 1; Sat. Aug. 4;
Sat. Sept. 1; Sunday, Oct.7;
Sat. Nov. 3; Sat. Dec. 1
Registration begins at 1:30 PM
Exams begin at 2.
No one admitted after exams begin!
Contact: Rusty, N3WKE; N3wke@arrl.net

AERO VE EXAMS

\$14 Fee, (ARRL VEC)
January 27, 2007; March 24; May 19; July 21; September, 29;
November 17 -- White Marsh Library, 8133 Sandpiper Circle,
White Marsh, Md. 21236
Register at 1 PM, exams begin at 1:30 PM
Pat, AC3F, ac3f@juno.com, 410-687-7209

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)

FIELD DAY RESULTS

The field day results are on the ARRL site now. We did Pretty darn good again this year. Total points was 3388. This was high enough to give us the Following rankings....
All Field Day entries; 479/2184
All 3A entries; 79/279
All Atlantic Division; 45/210
All MDC section; 10/36
All 3A entries in MDC; 2/5
"73", Bob WA3SWA

ARRL 500 kHz Experiment

The group of Amateur Radio operators researching the radio spectrum in the vicinity of 500 kHz already have recorded a few successes. The 500 KC Experimental Group for Amateur Radio is operating under Part 5 experimental license WD2XSH, which the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology granted September 13 to the ARRL. Project manager Fritz Raab, W1FR, says WD2XSH participants have been heard across both the Atlantic and the Pacific as well as all around the US.

Don't Forget the BRATS Holiday Party
Tuesday, December 19, 7:15 PM at the Randallstown
Library, 8604 Liberty Rd

the Milliwatt

milliwatt swap shop

ads are free and get results!

Send ad to: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915
Baltimore, MD 21282-5915, or email
to w3gk@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Alinco 110 2 -mtr xcvr. \$100. ACI AC20 linear for 2 meters, \$20. Heath HM102 power meter w/ antenna selector, \$40. Jerry, KB3AP, 443-618-0618.

WANTED: Through-hole 440 mobile antenna. Scott, KB3JQQ, 410-615-2434

FOR SALE: Special! ICOM BC-110A battery charger , 12vDC 200mA, for ICOM T8A or similar. Used only twice, misplaced, bought a new one. Found it after new one arrived. Cost \$46, make me an offer. Mayer, W3GXX, 410-786-6839 or w3gk@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Heathkit Security Sentinel GD-3810, \$20. Kenwood MC520DM hand mike, back lit, numbers, \$20. 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. W2IHY 8-band Audio equalizer, noise gate, \$175. Call Ted, W3OWN, 410-668-5580. Please leave message if you get answering machine.

KA3PSZ Estate Sale:

Ameritron AL-811 linear amplifier ... \$ 400
SWAN 350B 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meter 350 watt transceiver ... \$ 200
SWAN SWR 1A Power Meter (2) ... \$ 15
Hallicrafters S-77A Receiver (Needs Work) ... \$ 25
Ringo 10 meter vertical (Must be removed from roof) ... \$50
MFJ901 Antenna Tuner ... \$40
All prices negotiable.
Contact Frank Stone AC3P 410-687-7209 email:
ac3p@arrl.net

WANTED: Cushcraft Ringo AR6 6-mtr antenna or equivalent. Call Neil, W3ZQI, 410-765-8439, days, or e-mail: w3zqi@bratsatv.org

For Sale: ADI AR-247 220 Mhz. Mobile including all original equipment. In service for less than 200 hours. \$110, half what I paid for it. Contact Bob, KC3FI at (410) 8827606 or kc3fi@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

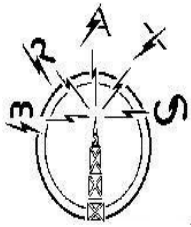
AUDIO CONVERSIONS.

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/>

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. Send copy to w3gk@verizon.net

ATTENTION: if you do NOT want your ad to run again, please send me an email to that effect. Thanks! w3gk@verizon.net



the Milliwatt



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

December 2006

UTAH ATV

Lots of projects and links:

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

(Thanks, Scott, KB3JQQ)

LOCAL ATV NETS

Tuesday, 11:45 AM

Informal Net, W3WVV

(Audio on 147.03/R)

Wednesday, 9 PM

CATS Net, rotating Net Control

(Audio on 145.13/R)

Thursday, 9 PM

BRATS Net, Rotating Net Control

(Audio on 147.03/R)

Sunday, 8 PM

MATS Net, KB3LNN Net Control

(BRATS ATV and Linked FM Repeaters)

Next BRATS Meeting

Tuesday, December 19, 7:15 PM

Randallstown Library, 8604 Liberty Rd

Annual elections, HOLIDAY PARTY!

IF YOUR DUES ARE DUE, RENEW! DO IT NOW! Thanks!

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		