



CROSSTALK

NEWSLETTER OF THE W6TRW
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Volume 34 Number 4

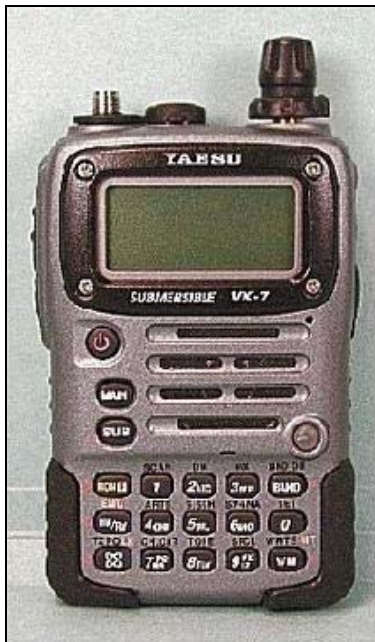
April 2002



UNITED WE STAND



BREAKING NEWS:



Just when you thought you had the latest and greatest HT, Yaesu/Vertex has another radio in the works, the VX-7R.

Before you run out to your favorite Ham Radio store and purchase this radio, it's not been formally introduced as of this publication; The rumor is that it will be first displayed at this years Dayton Hamvention. Those of you who have a Kenwood TH-F6A HT remember it too was debuted at last years Hamvention and didn't make it to the stores until late 2001.

Dave N9EWO has an excellent web page on a whole bunch of different radios, check out his impressions on this upcoming radio.

<http://members.fortunecity.com/swradios/vx7r.html>

For Sale: Ten Tec Omni VI with plus upgrade, \$1100.

Kenwood TS-60, 90 watt 6 meter all mode, \$500.

Bill Shanney, W6QR. Phone 310-813-8159 daytime.

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W6TRW ARC Monthly Calendar of Events

Third Monday of each month	5:30 pm	Executive Board Meeting, R3/1036 (All Club Members are invited)
Second Tuesday of each month	5:30pm	Club Meeting Round Table Pizza, (Redondo Bch. & Hawthorne)
Second Tuesday of each month	12:00 noon	Emergency Communications Team Meeting R3 Emergency Operations Center
Last Saturday of each month (<i>Rain or Shine & Holidays</i>)	7:00 am	W6TRW/ARC Swap Meet Marine and Aviation (Southeast Corner)
During the Swapmeet	10:00 am	VE Sessions in Cafeteria

Weekly Events

Every Monday Night (Except the 1st & Holidays)	7:30 pm	Disaster Communication Systems (DCS) Net DCS Members: Check in on 2 Meter Repeater
Every Wednesday	12:00 noon	ECT Net on 2 meter Repeater All Amateurs Welcome
Every Thursday	7:00 pm	Space Hams Net on 2 meter Repeater with N6SHI and W6EKK
Every Mon, Wed, Fri	2:00 pm	W6TRW Retirees Net 7185 KHz
Every Friday Morning	7:30 am	W6TRW Amateur Radio Club Breakfast Building S Cafeteria - Everyone is invited Talk-in on 2 Meters

Other Ham Swap meets:

El Cajon ARC - 1st Sat. ea. mo. 6:00 AM @ Santee Drive-in Theater, Woodside Ave. @ Hwy 67 in Santee Talk-in 146.52

Inland Empire ARC - 2nd Sat. ea. mo. 7:00 to 11:30 AM @ A.B. Miller High School, Walnut & Oleander in Fontana Talk-in 145.480 (-600 pl=77.0hz)

CA Microwave Relay Assoc. at CAL POLY - 3rd Sat. ea. mo. 7-11am in lots F8,F9 and F10 @ CAL Poly Pomona at 3801 West Temple.

DXCC TO ACCEPT P5/4L4FN CONTACTS FOR CREDIT

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #14)

To great sighs of relief from the DX community, the ARRL this week announced that it will accept SSB contacts with P5/4L4FN in North Korea for DXCC credit. Operator Ed Giorgadze of the Republic of Georgia, has been active from the capital city of Pyongyang since early last November. Valid SSB contacts from the onset of the P5/4L4FN operation last fall now may be submitted for DXCC credit.

"The ARRL has now received adequate evidence that the operation by Mr. Giorgadze is being conducted with the knowledge and approval of telecommunications officials in Pyongyang," said ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG. "At the present time, this approval is limited to SSB operation." Giorgadze has been operating with oral permission from North Korean authorities, but Mills said the ARRL is satisfied on the basis of written information submitted that the P5/4L4FN operation conforms with DXCC rules and should be accepted for credit.

Mills cited DXCC Rule 7, which states "Any Amateur Radio operation should take place only with the complete approval and understanding of appropriate administration officials." The rule continues, "In any case, credit will be given for contacts where adequate evidence of authorization by appropriate authorities exists."

Mills said the ARRL Awards Committee met and concurred that the operation should be accredited.

The P5/4L4FN operation is not a DXpedition. Giorgadze is employed by the United Nations World Food Program and often spends as much as 12 hours a day on the job, operating in his off hours.

According to The Daily DX, Giorgadze learned this week that he will be in North Korea at least until July 2003. He tried for more than two years to obtain permission to operate Amateur Radio and finally was given the okay last year to bring an ICOM IC-706MkIIIG into the country. A favorite hangout has been 21.225 MHz (he works split and listens up). He's also been a frequent visitor to 10 meters. Now that his operation has been okayed for DXCC, Giorgadze has indicated that he plans to be more active on the air.

While P5/4L4FN has been doing some RTTY operation in addition to SSB, those contacts are not yet being accepted for DXCC credit.

Bruce Paige, KK5D0, has been acting as QSL manager and liaison for P5/4L4FN. He said this week that the first QSL cards should be going out within a few weeks. Paige offers an on-line log, additional news and information and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) about the operation on his AMSAT Net Web site <http://www.amsatnet.com>>. Click on the "P5 North Korea" link.

FCC PROCEEDING PUTS NEW PRESSURE ON AMATEUR MICROWAVE BAND

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #14)

The FCC has again targeted Amateur Radio's primary allocation at 2390 to 2400 MHz for possible sharing or use by other radio services. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (WT Docket 02-55)--released in mid-March but not yet available for public comment--invites comments on either sharing the band with public safety services being displaced from 800 MHz or moving amateurs elsewhere. The ARRL plans to file comments in the proceeding.

The FCC says increasing incidents of harmful interference to public safety systems in the 800-MHz band prompted the proceeding, "Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band." To alleviate the problem, the Commission now is looking into restructuring the 800 MHz band and moving some occupants elsewhere.

"In this proceeding, if commenting parties believe that incumbent amateur services cannot co-exist with relocated 800 MHz services," the FCC said, "we seek comment on whether incumbent amateur services could be relocated, what spectrum could be used for their relocation, and what procedures would apply to such relocation." The FCC NPRM identifies 2390-2400 MHz as an "Unlicensed PCS Band." Unlicensed, asynchronous PCS devices were authorized there in 1995, but Amateur Radio remains primary.

The FCC also will seek comments on whether existing UPCS operations could continue in the band or be forced to cease. It also wants input on "the suitability of the 2390-2400 MHz band as replacement spectrum and whether there are other band segments with which this band could be paired." The FCC noted that the adjacent 2385-2390 MHz segment already is slated for auction.

The FCC said its discussion of 2390-2400 MHz and other segments in terms of replacement spectrum was intended to be "illustrative rather than exclusive" and that other bands "may also merit consideration."

Just last summer, the FCC invited comments on its proposals to reallocate some spectrum in the 2390 to 2400 MHz amateur segment--as well as in the non-amateur 1.9 and 2.1 GHz bands--for possible use by unspecified mobile and fixed services. The Commission has proposed 2390 to 2400 MHz and other bands to support the introduction of advanced wireless systems, including so-called third-generation (3G) mobile systems. The FCC also has asked for comments on whether amateurs could share the band with government users.

The complete NPRM is available via the FCC Web site http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-02-81A1.doc. The FCC will officially invite comments for 30 days after the NPRM is published in the Federal Register. Reply comments will be due 60 days following publication in the Federal Register.

WISCONSIN GOVERNOR SIGNS AMATEUR ANTENNA BILL

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #14)

Wisconsin Gov Scott McCallum this week signed AB368, the Amateur Radio FCC PRB-1 Amateur Radio Antenna Protection Act into law in that state. The governor's stroke of the pen April 2 makes the Badger State the 16th to incorporate the language of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into its statutes. The new law becomes effective immediately.

"After summarizing the contents of the law, Gov McCallum made a special point of noting the important role that Wisconsin hams play in providing emergency and public communication support throughout the state," said ARRL Wisconsin Section Government Liaison Jim Lackore, AD9X, who was present at the signing. The Amateur Radio antenna bill was one of six pieces of legislation that McCallum signed into law April 2 during a ceremony at the Oshkosh Senior Center.

AB 368 mirrors the language of the limited federal preemption. It would require that ordinances or resolutions affecting the placement, screening or height of Amateur Radio antennas or support structures have a "reasonable and clearly defined aesthetic, public health or safety objective." Such an ordinance or resolution also must represent "the minimum practical regulation" necessary to accomplish the locality's objectives and must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communication.

On hand in addition to Lackore as the governor signed the measure were Wisconsin Section Manager Don Michalski, W9IXG; Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator Dr. Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR; Ozaukee County Supervisor and Republican official Gus Wirth Jr, W9BTN; and the original sponsor of AB368, former Wisconsin State Rep Joan Wade, who credited the efforts of the late Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, in getting the bill through the legislature.

Romelfanger--a Wisconsin Amateur Radio activist, ARRL Public Information Coordinator and editor of the Badger State Smoke Signals ham radio newspaper--died December 22. He had worked closely with Wade's office to promote introduction of PRB-1 legislation for several years. Michalski has characterized passage of the measure "a tribute" to Romelfanger.

Michalski said one of the reasons for the passage of AB368 was a strong team and significant support from Wisconsin's Amateur Radio community. "Our deep appreciation to all of you who took the time to contact your legislators," Michalski said. "The system works!"

A PRB-1 measure has been under consideration in Tennessee, and similar measures have been proposed for introduction in other states. More information on antenna regulation is available on the ARRL Antenna Restrictions Web page
<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/antenna-restrictions.html>

NEW MEXICO ARES/RACES TEAMS SUPPORT FIRE RESPONSE

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #14)

Amateurs in New Mexico supported the activities of responding agencies in late March when four wildfires broke out at approximately the same time within a few miles of each other. One of the fires destroyed more than two dozen houses.

Working as a combined Lincoln County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) team, amateurs provided local communication support as well as an HF link between the fire incident command post and the state emergency operations center in the capital city of Santa Fe.

"This was the first time the team members wore both hats during an actual event," said Lincoln County Emergency Coordinator and RACES Officer Rick Sohl, K5RIC.

Amateurs also helped the Rio Hondo Chapter of the American Red Cross, which provided staff, equipment and food to feed fire-suppression teams as well as those staffing the incident command headquarters, other support staffers and those forced to take refuge in Red Cross shelters or seek first aid. More than 1000 people had to be evacuated.

Sohl said the so-called Alto Fire got its start March 23 in Lincoln County and destroyed 29 homes and a barn. "Someone putting fireplace ashes outside without making sure the ashes were out caused this fire," he said. The blaze burned nearly 1000 acres. A second fire started in Otero County on the Mescalero Apache Reservation. Called the Hondo Fire, it subsequently crossed into Lincoln County and burned some 17,000 acres.

Sohl said local repeater nets coordinated support personal, equipment disbursement and food distribution. In addition to the HF link with the state EOC, the ARES/RACES team networked the Red Cross shelter, first aid station, fire command post, three county-wide gateway net control stations and five mobile radio units via Amateur Radio. "The two fires required the Red Cross to set up two shelters and first aid stations to deal with two areas," Sohl said. "Two smaller fires were being suppressed at the same time."

The ARES/RACES team was able to integrate smoothly into the Red Cross response activities, Sohl observed. "Feeding this many people can be a logistical problem," he said. "This chapter has provided such support each year during fire season, so they know how to do the job correctly and have found that a radio network can improve efficiency at a time when it can make a major difference."

Sohl said this week that while the Alto and Hondo fires now are out, high winds plus a warmer-than-normal winter and a lack of snowfall have combined to create an extremely high fire danger situation.

In all, more than three dozen amateurs--including ARRL New Mexico Section Manager Joe Knight, W5PDY--were involved in providing communication support during the fire emergency. More information is available on the Lincoln County ARES/RACES Web site <<http://www.zianet.com/sohl>>.

British ham-sailor expresses gratitude for amateurs' assistance:

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #14)

David Beane, G0TAG, this week expressed his thanks to members of the Maritime Mobile Service Net, who assisted him and his wife, Sarah, after their sailing vessel Tao went aground March 26 off Cuba. Amateurs were able to contact Cuban authorities, who secured the vessel and later helped to refloat it.

"Having got our brains back together after our nasty incident we wish to send our thanks to the guys on the Maritime Mobile Net who acted with such efficiency when we went aground on the north coast of Cuba," Beane said. "The Cubans helped to lay out our anchors and stood by us during the night." They also arranged for a tow boat, Beane said, but as it turned out, a tow was not needed as the couple managed to get their sailboat into deeper water by themselves. Cuban fishermen then escorted the Tao into the ocean through a gap in the reef, and in port at Moa, two divers checked out the underside for damage--all at no cost, "just a lot of smiling and waving." Beane said.

B&W co-founder John F. "Jack" Williamson, W3GC, SK:

(Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #14)

Jack Williamson, W3GC, of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, died March 19. He was 95.

Williamson was the co-founder of Barker & Williamson--B&W--once a well-known US manufacturer of Amateur Radio equipment. First licensed in 1921, Williamson in his youth earned a widespread reputation for his radio knowledge, and even radio manufacturer Atwater Kent and his engineers sought Williamson out for his technical advice. After leaving his electrical engineering studies at Drexel Institute when the Depression hit, he and long-time friend Barrie Barker, W3DGP, then out of work, launched a new business to manufacture RF coils for amateurs. B&W did so well in the pre-World War II years that Hallicrafters engineers, frustrated in their attempts to design an antenna tuner for the BC-610 that could match short antennas to Signal Corps specifications, approached the fledgling company. B&W's prototype was accepted, and a production contract was awarded for the tuner, known as BC-939. That led to additional contracts. After WWII, the company was successful in both the military and ham radio sectors. Most notable in the B&W amateur line were their coils and transmitter variable capacitor products and the model 5100 all-band transmitter. While Barker retired, Williamson continued operating B&W until its sale in 1964. He had been an ARRL member for 22 years and had continued as an active amateur until recently.--Bob Thomas, W3NE

W6TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Wendell Young	KE6ASC	R3 / 1086	(310) 813-2622
Vice President	Greg Martens	N6RRY	M1 / 1275	(310) 813-4049
Secretary	Wendy Crawford	KQ6CG	Carson	(310) 513-2060
Treasurer	Jason Fujino	KD6ELS	R5 / 2130	(310) 812-5461

APPOINTED STAFF

447 Repeater Autopatch	Duane Park	WA6EIK	O1 / 1070	(310) 813-4219
Activities Chairperson	Mike Hamada	KF6UCN	M5 / 0435	(310) 814-2628
Crosstalk Editor	Duane Park	WA6EIK	O1 / 1070	(310) 813-4219
Emer. Comm. Coordinator	Wendell Young	KE6ASC	R5 / 1060B	(310) 813-7691
Librarian	Jim Harrison	K6OUE	R6 / 2541	(310) 814-1937
Membership Chairperson	Wendy Crawford	KQ6CG		(310) 513-2060
Past President	Bob Briggs	KD6WYQ	O1 / 1270	(310) 813-2622
Publicity Chairperson	Dave Nelson	AB6DU	R8 / 2144	(310) 813-9775
QSL Manager	Bryan DeAro	KN6OW	120 / 1020B	(310) 812-4789
S.P. Packet/Internet Sysop	Chris Wachs	WA2KDL	M4 / 2375	(310) 813-1506
SEA Representative	Chris Wachs	WA2KDL	M4 / 2375	(310) 813-1506
Swap Meet Manager	Greg Martens	N6RRY	M1 / 1275	(310) 813-4049
Technical Chairperson	John Cheatham	KE6OJM	R9 / 2477	(310) 813-5903
Training Chairperson	Bryan DeAro	KN6OW	120 / 1020B	(310) 812-4789
Trustee of W6TRW License	Elizabeth Kunkee	KS4IS	D1 / 1024	(310) 813-0524
W6TRW COMM Webmaster	Duane Park	WA6EIK	O1 / 1070	(310) 813-4219

BOLD=NEW

W6TRW ARC Hotline (Club Answering Machine) (310) 813-8569
W6TRW 2 Meter Repeater (Open Repeater) 145.32 (-600) PL 114.8Hz
W6TRW UHF Repeater (Open Repeater / Closed Autopatch) 447.00 (-5 MHz) PL 100 Hz
W6TRW-3 Packet Radio Internet Gateway and BBS (1200 Baud Port) 146.745 (-600)

W6TRW Internet Home Page

<http://www.w6trw.com/>

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