



CROSSTALK

NEWSLETTER OF THE W6TRW
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Volume 34 Number 5

May 2002



UNITED WE STAND



BREAKING NEWS:

FIELD DAY COMING NEXT MONTH!

Operators still needed, If you can help, contact Rod, KE6PI by email: KE6PI@cox.net

Need a accurate wrist watch that won't break your pocketbook so you can keep track of your QSO schedules, etc. Check out the WAVECEPTOR by Casio, it has a WWVB receiver and you never have to set it*.

**Well, almost...I've noticed that in certain areas of California, the watch was not able to receive a solid signal from WWVB for daily updates. Fortunately for me, it works fine in my area. (It displays UTC in 24 hr. mode but local time is 12hr. only)*



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World Time

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Cost: ~\$50.00 US

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W6TRW ARC Monthly Calendar of Events

Third Tuesday of each month	5:30 pm	Executive Board Meeting, R4/2020f (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 (Rain or Shine & Holidays)	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.

SECOND "SPACE TOURIST" EN ROUTE TO ISS; AMATEUR CONTACTS

PLANNED *Reprinted from The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 17*

Space tourist and amateur researcher Mark Shuttleworth this week journeyed to the International Space Station. The South Africa native, who now lives in London, and his two crewmates--Russian cosmonaut and ISS veteran Yuri Gidzenko and European Space Agency astronaut Roberto Vittori, IZ6ERU, blasted off April 25 from Russia's Baikonur Cosmodrome aboard a Soyuz vehicle. They were scheduled to arrive at the ISS April 27. During their eight-day stay, Shuttleworth and Vittorio are scheduled to speak via Amateur Radio with youngsters at schools in South Africa and Italy.

"This live communication represents a major turning point for the image of South African education," Shuttleworth said in a statement released by a South African marketing firm he's hired, "and puts a group of our school learners uniquely into the global spotlight of space exploration." Shuttleworth, 28, has been issued a "temporary, honorary Amateur Radio station license" by the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa. The license, good for three months, bears the call sign ZS RSA--not an amateur configuration.

If successful, the contacts will mark the first ARISS QSOs with schools in Africa. The initial contact is set for Monday, April 29, with Shuttleworth's alma mater, Bishops in Cape Town. Students in three South African provinces submitted questions, the best of which will be posed by winners of a nationwide competition. Additional contacts are on the ARISS roster with three other South African schools. Vittorio is scheduled to attempt a direct 2-meter ARISS contact with a school in Italy on May 4.

Shuttleworth's adventure, which NASA calls "a private commercial agreement with the Russian Aviation and Space Agency," is costing him an estimated \$20 million. After the visit of the first space tourist, businessman Dennis Tito, KG6FZX, almost a year ago, NASA, Russia and the other international partners established some guidelines for future visits of this type. As did Tito, Shuttleworth says space travel has been a lifelong dream.

According to media accounts, Shuttleworth has rankled at being described as a "space tourist." He points out that he's trained eight months for the mission. In addition, Shuttleworth says, he and Gidzenko have been trained by Russian and South African biologists in how to carry out genetic engineering studies using animal stem cells while aboard the ISS.

The crew's primary mission is to deliver a fresh Soyuz spacecraft to the ISS, where a Soyuz craft remains available as a lifeboat. The trio will return to Earth in early May aboard the Soyuz spacecraft now attached to the station. Gidzenko, a veteran of the ISS's first resident crew, will become the first former resident to revisit the complex

ARES TEAMS ACTIVATE FOLLOWING FATAL TRAIN WRECKS

Reprinted from The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 17

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) teams in California and Northern Florida activated recently to assist in the wake of separate train wrecks.

In Florida more than half the cars of an Amtrak "Auto Train" carrying 418 passengers and 34 crew members derailed April 18 near Crescent City.

Putnam County ARES established emergency communication from the site—on the Putnam/Volusia county line—shortly after the wreck and also staffed a shelter and two hospitals. Four people died as a result of the mishap and more than 100 others were injured.

Billy Williams, N4UF, of Florida Crown District ARES, said the American Red Cross responded in the accident's immediate aftermath. Red Cross communications were set up on a VHF repeater with help from Duval County amateurs. Other amateurs pitched in to staff a Red Cross shelter and the Putnam County emergency operations center. ARES members also were deployed at a local hospital as well as at hospitals in Jacksonville that were put on alert to receive patients.

Within 15 minutes of the wreck, the Florida Crown Emergency Net activated on a linked repeater system. A third repeater served as a base of operation for Putnam County ARES, under the direction of Putnam County Emergency Coordinator Mark Bradford, WF3F. That repeater was linked to a Jacksonville repeater (W4IJJ) to handle Red Cross requests between the Jacksonville Red Cross Headquarters and the scene of the wreck some 60 miles away, Williams said.

The shelter and triage center at Crescent City High School reported a peak population of more than 300 via Amateur Radio—most believed to be passengers who were able to walk away from the scene. Amtrak later bussed remaining passengers from the shelter to hotels for the night, and the amateur operation was able to shut down.

More than a dozen hams assisted in the ARES response. Additional details are on the North Florida Amateur Radio Society Balanced Modulator Web site <http://home.earthlink.net/~bfwillia/_wsn/page4.html>.

In California, a freight train collided head-on April 23 with a Metrolink double-decker commuter train. Ironically, the mishap occurred just as hospitals and emergency responders in Orange County were about to hold a large-scale drill to test patient triage and transportation procedures for mass casualty incidents.

Two dozen members of the Hospital Disaster Support Communication System (HDSCS)—a special ARES group that always participates in the drill—were awaiting assignments when word came in of the train collision. Two passengers were killed and more than 200 were injured—many seriously. Orange County ARES Emergency Coordinator and HDSCS Net Control April Moell, WA6OPS, immediately assigned the drill-ready hams to the 14 hospitals expected to receive crash victims. For the next 4-1/2 hours, 28 HDSCS members provided vital links among the hospitals, the county's ambulance dispatch center and the county's emergency medical service agency.

Net traffic included verifying victim dispatch and patient counts, providing hospitals with information for inquiring family members, and liaison with hams supporting the Red Cross. Within some hospitals, hams provided direct communication among triage areas, emergency departments, and command posts.

Moell is founder and Emergency Coordinator of the ARES group. More information is available on the HDSCS Web site <<http://www.hdscs.org>>.—thanks to Billy Williams, N4UF and Joe Moell, K0OV

FCC INVITES COMMENTS ON NOVICE BAND, FIELD-REPARABLE GEAR PETITIONS

Reprinted from The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 16

Comments are due by May 16 on two Amateur Radio-related Petitions for Rule Making put on public notice this week by the FCC. An ARRL petition, designated RM-10413, would eliminate the 80, 40 and 15-meter Novice/Technician Plus CW subbands and reuse the spectrum in part to expand the 80 and 40-meter phone allocations. Another petition filed by Nick Leggett, N3NL, designated RM-10412, would require most commercially manufactured Amateur Radio transmitters and transceivers to be field-repairable "in some manner."

Amateurs may view and comment on these proposals via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. (Click on "Search for Filed Comments." In the "Proceeding" field enter the rulemaking number, with "RM" in upper-case and the hyphen included.)

The ARRL's petition, filed in March, asks the FCC to eliminate the Novice and Technician-Plus CW bands and reapportion these "inefficiently deployed segments" to alleviate overcrowding elsewhere. If the FCC goes along, current Novice and Technician Plus (ie, Technician with Element 1 credit) licensees would be permitted to operate on the 80, 40, 15 and 10-meter General-class CW allocations at up to 200 W output. For General and higher class operators, the ARRL plan would implement changes in the 80, 40 and 15-meter phone bands, expanding phone segments for many amateurs.

The League's petition also seeks FCC permission to use spread spectrum on 222-225 MHz; to expand the pool of special event call signs beyond the 1x1 format to include identifiers for US territories and possessions that do not provide for mailing addresses; to clarify rules to indicate that modulated CW (MCW) is permitted for repeater station identification; and to incorporate into the rules a 1990 FCC waiver authorizing amateurs in certain areas of Colorado and Wyoming to operate on certain segments of the 33-cm band.

The Leggett petition was filed in February. "Field repair is important to the Amateur Radio Service because it enhances emergency communications preparedness and the growth of technical knowledge in the Amateur Radio Service," Leggett said in his petition.

Leggett suggests that the FCC consider mandating easily replaceable modules or circuit boards, minimum component spacings on circuit boards, removable integrated circuits mounted in sockets and other requirements for commercially made amateur transmitters and transceivers. He would exempt ham radio receivers.

Leggett concedes that some manufacturers may drop out of the amateur market if the FCC were to adopt his recommendations, but he suggests that they would be replaced by other manufacturers, such as those making QRP equipment.

Last December, Leggett and attorney Don Schellhardt petitioned the FCC to require that all electronic equipment subject to FCC jurisdiction be shielded against electromagnetic pulse (EMP) damage.

REPEATER LINKING: IRLP SURPASSES 400 Reprinted from Amateur Radio Newsline™ Report 1290

Nate Duehr, WY0X, reports that the Internet Radio Linking Project or I- R-L-P has now exceeded 400 nodes. The latest list shows the number stands at 403 installed.

The Internet Radio Linking Project permits repeaters around the world to interconnect with one another using a Linux based computer and a simple computer to repeater interface. The system is secure against non hams penetrating it because of its proprietary hardware and software made available only to licensed radio amateurs. In fact, it is the only Internet ham radio linking system permitted by the Australian government.

More information is on the world wide web at www.irlp.net. Be sure to look at <http://status.irlp.net> and <http://maps.irlp.net> to see if there is an I-R-L-P node near you (WY0X)

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: KOLIBRI 2000 TO DE-ORBIT Reprinted from Amateur Radio Newsline™ Report 1290

The Kolibri-2000 Russian and Australian School Scientific Research Microsatellite is headed toward a fiery grave. Kolibri-2000, later named RS-21 was launched on March 19th at 22:00 UTC from the International Space Station and has been in orbit for the past 6 weeks. During that time Kolibri's has been sending back telemetry and digital voice recordings.

The low cost RS-21 satellite was designed for this type of short duration mission. Part of its job included analyzing particles using a very sophisticated a flux-gate magnetometer and sending that data back to Earth. But all of this will soon end as Kolibri-2000 will reenter the Earths atmosphere and burn up sometime between May 3rd to the 4th UTC time.

Since the RS-21 has solar panels to recharge it batteries, it should be able to continue to transmit data until re-entry occurs. To hear its last transmissions, keep your radio set to the satellites primary downlink on 435.335 MHz and secondary downlink on 145.825 MHz. Both frequencies operate CW and FSK and you might want to keep a tape recorder running to catch a bit of ham radio space history as the mission of Kolibri-2000 comes to an end. (WF1F, ARNewsline(tm))

OWNERS OF BROOKLYN REPEATER DON'T RESPOND TO FCC

Reprinted from Amateur Radio Newsline™ Report 1290

The owner operators of a repeater in the New York City area have not yet responded to a letter of inquiry from the FCC and the agency wants to know why. So it has once again written to one of the pair of hams to demand an answer. The person posing the questions is Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH: Hollingsworth: "We warned Thomas Batista, an operator of the KC2DDD and the N2IFU repeater -- the repeater alternately known by both of those call signs -- in Corona New York -- that we had nor gotten a response from him to our letter of February 15th. That letter concerned interference and allegations of no coordination."

In earlier letters to Batista and Gerardo Arias regarding the same repeater, the FCC asked for an explanation of why the system input is on 143.020 MHz. This is a frequency not allocated for use by hams. (FCC)

XM & SIRIUS CONCERNED ABOUT OUT-OF-BAND EMISSIONS

Reprinted from Amateur Radio Newsline™ Report 1290

The nation's two satellite digital audio radio service providers, XM and Sirius, are concerned that out-of-band signals from a variety of wireless devices. The CGC Communicator reports that the two worry that these services will eventually cause widespread interference to their program services.

Singled out as potential culprits are license-free Part 15 and 18 devices such as ISM, Bluetooth, IEEE 802.11b, home RF wireless devices, RF lighting, ultra-wideband devices and even Family Radio Service transmitters. The fifth harmonics from Channels FRS channels 8 to 14 fall within XM's passband but not Sirius's. More information is found at the FCC website under ET Docket 01-278, RM-9375 and RM-10051. (CGC Communicator)

AMSAT-NA ANNOUNCES NEW SATELLITE PROJECT

Reprinted from Amateur Radio Newsline™ Report 1290

AMSAT North America has started construction of a new low-earth-orbit communications satellite. According to the groups president Robin Haighton, VE3FRH, the satellite will be similar in size to the original AMSAT Microsat design, but will incorporate all new leading edge electronics and RF technology

The new satellite will be code named AMSAT OSCAR E or Echo until launch. It will contain both analog and digital VHF and UHF FM transponders similar to those carried on the UOSAT-OSCAR 14 and AMRAD-OSCAR 27 ham-sats that are currently in orbit. In addition, the new satellite will have the capability to host one or two other experimental payloads.

Haighton discussed the new bird at the organization's Board of Directors meeting held in Washington, DC, on April 20th and 21st. The spacecraft is now slated to be ready for launch in late 2003. AMSAT says that a number of affordable launch opportunities are being actively explored.
(ANS)

DX *Reprinted from Amateur Radio Newsline™ Report 1290*

In D-X, what is believed to be the first 2-meter random meteor scatter contact has been made between Australia and New Zealand. Rex Moncur, VK7MO, in Hobart and Bob McQuarrie, ZL3TY, in Greymouth, on the west coast of the south island of New Zealand, made the contact on April 13th over a distance of 1950 kilometres using the W-S-J-T software. (Q-News, RSGB)

A bit lower in frequency, HC8N reports that the new QSL Route to him is Randy Bechnel, W5UE, at Post Office Box 170, Kiln, MS 39556-0170 in the United States. Bechnel replaces Derek Wills AA5BT who is stepping down after 10 years of service and 50,000 QSL requests answered. (Various DX publications)

Also, Dennis Hanley, G3YVY, says that he has been informed that his callsign is being used on 20 meters. At present Dennis has no High Frequency equipment and says that has no immediate plans to become active on the H-F bands. (RSGB)

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	Dave Nelson	AB6DU	DH4 / 1423G	(310) 764-3496
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/>

W6TRW Amateur Radio Club
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One Space Park
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

FIRST CLASS

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