



CROSSTALK

NEWSLETTER OF THE W6TRW
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Volume 34 Number 7

July 2002



UNITED WE STAND



BREAKING NEWS:

FIELD DAY 2002



SEE MORE PICTURES ON OUR WEB PAGE

In This issue:

- *Texas flooding continues – Page3*
- *Oscar 7 semi-alive – Page5*
- *Dayton attendance down again – Page5*

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	Noon	Club Meeting Poliwog Park July & August
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.

Attention All Amateurs...

General Communications Emergency Declared (Jul 5, 2002) -- Under the authority of Section 97.401 of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations [47 C.F.R. Part 97] a general communications emergency is declared to exist in Texas requiring the protection of amateur emergency communication frequencies. Amateurs are required to refrain from using 7285 [daytime], and 3873 [night time] plus or minus 3 kHz unless they are taking part in the handling of emergency traffic. This order is effective immediately until rescinded but may be as long as 72 hours. -- Arlan K. Van Doorn, Senior Advisor for Public Safety, Enforcement Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC

Emergency Declared as Texas Flooding Continues (Jul 6, 2002) -- The Federal Communication Commission declared a general communications emergency Friday in response to severe flooding in parts of Texas. Days of nonstop rainfall have created some of the worst flood conditions in 100 years and caused thousands to flee their homes.

AMATEURS SUPPORT ARIZONA WILDFIRE RESPONSE; ARES STANDS DOWN IN COLORADO Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #26

Amateur Radio support of the Arizona wildfire response has continued this week. Arizona ARRL Section Manager Cliff Hauser, KD6XH, reports that there are enough Amateur Radio operators on hand to support the fire-fighting efforts. President Bush this week declared parts of the state federal disaster areas.

In addition to VHF and UHF repeaters, amateurs are maintaining HF nets on 3990 and 7265 kHz. An FCC communications emergency has put both HF frequencies, plus or minus 3 kHz, off limits to anyone not involved in handling emergency traffic. The ban will remain in effect until lifted. W1AW has suspended its bulletin transmissions on 3990 for the duration of the ban.

The combined Rodeo-Chediski Fire now has scorched more than 420,000 acres of Arizona woodlands. Upwards of 600 homes and businesses have been destroyed, and some 30,000 Arizona residents have been evacuated as a result of the fire.

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) has taken on the job of coordinating communications during the emergency. SATERN Western Area Coordinator Warren Andreason, K7CWA, reports SATERN has stations and operators at six locations in Arizona, including one in the threatened community of Show Low, where the National Guard asked The Salvation Army to set up a kitchen operation. Another has been set up at The Salvation Army's Camp Ponderosa near Heber, which is serving as a FEMA incident command post as well as a responder staging area.

SATERN Coordinator Pat McPherson, WW9E, said the HF network has been very effective in smoothing the flow of goods and supplies coming into the affected area. At one point, McPherson said, an on-the-air conference of Salvation Army principals established procedures and refine supply-chain logistics. "This only occurred due to the opportunity for all the principals to be on the air via Amateur Radio," he said. McPherson said that, so far, SATERN has had a good supply of volunteer reinforcements from the amateur community.

(AMATEURS SUPPORT ARIZONA WILDFIRE RESPONSE cont.)

Hauser said other amateurs are supporting Red Cross facilities in Flagstaff, Holbrook and Phoenix. Operators from the Arizona Amateur Radio Club's W7IO are staffing the Arizona Emergency Operations Center in Phoenix. Cris McBride, KB7QXQ, told ARRL that about 30 radio amateurs from the Show Low area—including members of the Kachina Amateur Radio Club—have been helping to maintain contact between the Navajo County EOC and the state EOC. McBride, who lives five miles from Show Low, was among those evacuated June 19.

Hauser reports that Dave Epley, N9CZV, remains in Show Low, whose 8000 residents have been largely evacuated. Epley has been handling health-and-welfare traffic for town residents who chose not to leave. Hauser said he plans to spend next week in Show Low to help out. Epley has requested that users not attempt to connect with his N9CZV IRLP node 336 in Show Low, which is being used for the fire emergency.

Meanwhile in Colorado, Amateur Radio Emergency Service support for the Hayman Fire concluded June 25. Several Colorado ARES teams spent the past few weeks volunteering their services as needed to local governments and to relief organizations, including the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army. ARRL Colorado SM Jeff Ryan, K0RM, reports that most evacuated residents have been allowed to return home.

ANOTHER ALL-HAM CREW SETTLES IN ABOARD THE ISS

Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #26

The International Space Station Expedition 5 crew of US astronaut Peggy Whitson, KC5ZTD, Russian cosmonaut and crew commander Valery Korzun, RZ3FK, and cosmonaut Sergei Treschev, RZ3FU, is settling in aboard the space outpost. The increment 5 crew is the second all-ham crew to serve a duty tour aboard the ISS. The Expedition 5 team will be in space for 4-1/2 months.

Scheduled Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contacts are set to resume in early July, when QSOs have been penciled in with the Progymnasium Rosenfeld in Rosenfeld, Germany, and the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum in Chicago. Other contacts with schools and educational institutions in the US and abroad are pending.

Although school contacts have been on hold during the crew transition, all has not been silent on the ARISS front. Korzun occasionally has been active on 2 meters as RS0ISS and even made a few contacts during Field Day. Among those reporting QSOs was Huntsville, Alabama, AMSAT Area Coordinator Tim Cunningham, N8DEU. He worked Korzun from the K4BFT Field Day setup, where he managed the satellite station. Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, of New Mexico, also reported a quick Field Day QSO with Korzun while using only a 5 W handheld transceiver and an Arrow antenna.

On June 12, Lonny Kelly, W7LGK, struck up a casual QSO with Korzun after he heard some activity on the ARISS downlink frequency (145.800 MHz) and put out a call. "Man, what an exciting moment!" he said afterward. "I had been trying for a little over a year to talk to one of the astronauts aboard the ISS, and I had finally made it."

The Expedition 5 crew officially began its duty tour June 7, arriving aboard the shuttle Endeavour. Since coming aboard, the crew has been unpacking gear and familiarizing itself with the station and its systems. A Progress supply rocket is scheduled to dock with the ISS June 29. Still undetermined is the effect on the ISS schedule resulting from the grounding of the NASA shuttle fleet while it looks into possible fuel line cracks. Missions are scheduled for July, August and October, when the Expedition 6 team is scheduled to arrive, and the current crew returns home.

IT'S ALIIIIIVE! AMSAT-OSCAR 7 SATELLITE RETURNS FROM THE DEAD

Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #26

After being declared dead more than 20 years ago, the AMSAT-OSCAR 7 satellite suddenly came back to life this month. First heard June 21 by Pat Gowan, G3IOR, AO-7 subsequently has been monitored--and used again--by several other amateurs. AO-7 was launched November 15, 1974. It remained operational for more than six years before succumbing to battery failure in 1981.

"I'm blown away," was the reaction of AO-7 Project Manager Jan King, W3GEY. "So, this old war horse of a spacecraft seems to have come back from the dead if only for a few moments."

Exclaimed satellite enthusiast and AMSAT Vice President for User Services Bruce Paige, KK5DO, "This is really awesome!" Paige said the latest turn of events makes AO-7 the oldest amateur satellite that's still working. AMSAT-NA has now listed AO-7 as "semi-operational."

AMSAT says it seems certain the satellite is running only off its solar panels, not from the onboard batteries, so it will be operational only while it's in sunlight. King speculates that the batteries, which shorted as they failed two decades ago, now are "un-shorting" and causing the satellite to come back to life.

For those attempting to use AO-7, Mode A (2 meters up/10 meters down) is not a problem, but Mode B (70 cm up/2 meters down) is. Because of changes in the international Radio Regulations that went into effect in the 1970s as AO-7 was under construction, the 432.1 MHz uplink frequency is no longer authorized for space communications.

AMSAT advises potential users that when uplinking to a satellite, they are operating in the Amateur-Satellite Service. AMSAT says uplinking to AO-7 "is possibly illegal since the Amateur Satellite Service is not permitted at 432.1 MHz." The current band plan earmarks the 432.1 MHz range for weak signal work. Sections 97.207(c)(2) and 97.207(b)(2) of the FCC's rules authorize space station and earth station operation only in the 435-438 MHz segment.

Built by a multinational team under the direction of AMSAT-NA, AO-7 carries Mode A (145.850-950 MHz uplink; 29.400-500 MHz downlink) and Mode B (432.180-120 MHz uplink; 145.920-980 MHz downlink) linear transponders plus beacons on 29.502 and 145.972 MHz. A 2304.1 MHz beacon was never turned on because of international treaty constraints.

AMSAT has additional information on AO-7 on its Web site <<http://www.amsat.org>>.

Dayton Hamvention attendance dips again in 2002

Reprinted from the ARRL Letter Vol. 21 #26

Dayton Hamvention reports that attendance for this year's 50th anniversary event was 24,832--down about 5 percent from 2001's crowd of 26,151. The 2002 number marks the second year in a row that Hamvention attendance has dipped. Over the past five years, attendance numbers had climbed to 28,804 in 2000, the year of the ARRL National Convention at Dayton. Hamvention attendance peaked in 1993 at 33,669--before the event date changed from April to May.

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	Bob Briggs	KD6WYQ	O1 / 1270	(310) 813-2622
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 Amateur Radio Club
S/1156
One Space Park
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

FIRST CLASS

Deliver To:

