

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London
And surrounding area since 1920

October 7, 2012

L.A.R.C. Executive

President

David Lambert, VE3KGK

1st Vice-President, Membership

John Visser, VA3MSV

2nd Vice-President

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Pat Ross, VE3CNX

Non-Voting Director, ARES & CANWARN

Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG

Appointments

Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

Repeater

Operator/Programmer

Vacant

Field Day Coordinator

Webmaster

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE
Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT

Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

Auditor

Rob Hockin, VA3HO

October's L.A.R.C. Meeting

The next LARC meeting will be **Thursday, October 11 at 7:30 pm.**
David McCarter, VE3GSO will be doing a presentation on PSK31.

RAC Bulletin 2012-057E - Distracted Driving Bulletin: Ontario Extends Exemption

September 25, 2012

The Radio Amateurs of Canada are today announcing written confirmation from Minister Bob Chiarelli of the Ontario Provincial Government regarding a five year extension of exemption to the Ontario distracted driving law. In his letter, Minister Chiarelli explains that the current exemptions for both Amateur Radio and Two Way Commercial Radios will be extended until January 1st, 2018.

Minister Chiarelli expresses his hope that in that time commercial hands free alternatives will be found for two way radios. While RAC finds victory in the five year extension, a permanent solution is desired and required.

The Radio Amateurs of Canada will continue to pursue a permanent exemption for Amateur Radio operators in Ontario. Similar exemptions already exist in many other provincial jurisdictions in Canada - thanks in part to the efforts of local amateurs and RAC's national strategy to address distracted driving legislation.

The Radio Amateurs of Canada is Canada's national voice for Amateur Radio. Our efforts not only promote the Amateur Radio Service but protect it from regulatory interference that may lead to less capability to provide emergency communications. Not already a RAC member? Why not join today at www.rac.ca and find out about the many benefits our members enjoy across the country and the world beyond.

Bill Gade, VE4WO - Regulatory Affairs

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Vernon Ikeda - VE2MBS/VE2QQ

Pointe-Claire, Québec

Next Meeting is Where and When?

Reminder: The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on October 13, 2012 at 7:30 pm

All meetings are normally located at St. Judes Anglican Church, 1537 Adelaide Street North at Fanshawe Park Road East in London, Ontario.

The meetings are normally held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm EST during the months of September to June.

Next Meeting will be November 8, 2012.

Area Repeaters

LARC Repeaters

London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VE3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

SORT Repeaters

London

VE3TTT 147.180 + 114.8Hz
Echolink Node 10741

VE3SUE 444.400 + 114.8 Hz
IRLP Node 2400

VE3TTT 442.200 + D-Star

Ipperwash

VE3TCB 146.940 - 114.8 Hz
Linked to VE3SUE

Grand Bend

VE3SRT 442.050 + 114.8 Hz
Linked to VE3SUE

Other Area Repeaters

London

VA3SIX 53.470 - 114.8 Hz

VE3OME 145.450 - 114.8 Hz
CANWARN

VA3FEZ 444.100 + 114.8 Hz

Grand Bend

VE3RGB 146.760 + 173.8 Hz

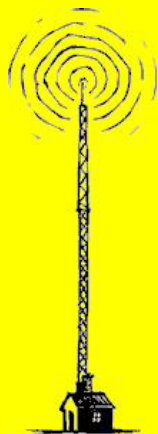
Stratfordville

VE3DPL 146.655 - 131.8 Hz

St. Thomas

VE3STR 147.330 + 114.8 Hz
Echolink Node: 72886

VE3STR 443.825 + 114.8 Hz
IRLP Node: 2482



If you have a repeater that should be listed here, please forward the information to John Visser, VA3MSV at va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll add it to the list.

Membership Certificates

The Club has created membership certificates for its current members. You can see your own certificate at the following link. <http://www.larc.ca/member-list.htm>

Simply click on your surname and it will bring up a PDF of your certificate suitable for printing.

Flaunt Your Face – Show Your Shack

In our hobby it's not always easy to put a face to all the fellow hams you talk to on the air. To help us all figure who's who, LARC invites its members to submit digital photos of yourself and/or your shack to be published on the membership page of our website. Purely voluntary of course, and if you prefer you can submit just one (depending on whether you think your face or your shack is more presentable).

How will it work? On the membership page, we'll attach your own picture where your first name appears, and the picture of your shack to your callsign. See the entry for Doug Elliott, VA3DAE for an example.

How do you submit your pictures?

Just email them to the LARC site webmaster address, which is: webmaster@larc.ca

Mutual Aid

Would you be willing to answer some questions if a fellow ham needed some advice? Got a problem you can't figure out? Want to try something new but need someone to show you the ropes? Check out our new **Mutual AID page** (<http://www.larc.ca/mutual-aid.html>), a new way to get people who are looking for assistance together with the folks who can help supply the answers. **Let us know** what you think of this new facility.

Membership Report

Currently the membership is at 118 to the club. Of the 17 Honorary Members brought in from the L.S.R.C., 4 have paid for the current 2011/2012 year. For the 2011/2012 year, have now have 19 new members. Unfortunately 3 past members of the club became a Silent Key last year.

I would like to welcome the following new members.

Gary Stapleton, VA3YAT Craig Dixon, VACDF
Ian MacLeod, VE3IRM

Perron Goodyear, VE3PSG - Public Relations & Development Representative,
Salvation Army

From the Middlesex-London Health Unit

Patricia Simone, VE3HIS - Manager, Emergency Preparedness

Ross Graham - Manager, Special Projects

Mark Przyslupski, VA3MPW

Mark Riedl, VA3MWR

Gordon Horner, VA3AEV

Scott McIntosh, VA3AEY

Rosemary Boyd, VA3AEH

Raymond Day, VA3AEU

Next month I will indicate the membership stats for the 2012/2013 year.

Nets



Daily

ONTARS Net

3.755 MHz 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Trans Provincial Net

7.055 MHz 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

London Senior's Net

146.400 MHz 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Sunday

ARES Ontario Net

7.153 MHz 1:00 pm

7.055 MHz 3:00 pm

3.742 MHz 7:15 pm

IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Monday

LARC 2m Net

147.060 + VA3LON 8:00 pm

SATERN Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 9:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 9:00 pm

Tuesday

ELMER Net

147.060 + VA3LON 9:00 pm

Wednesday

ARES Net

145.450 + VE3OME 7:30 pm

ARES Ontario Net

IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Thursday

PROCOMM Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Friday

Tech Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Saturday

VE3TTT 2m Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 7:30 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 7:30 pm

146.940 - VE3TCB 7:30 pm

442.050 + VE3SRT 7:30 pm

Enforcement: Two Commercial Operations Evicted From 2 Meters In Canada

September 14, 2012

Radio Amateurs of Canada has announced that two cases of frequency incursion to the 2 meter band by business users have been resolved.

In the first incident, a transportation company based in Reinfeld, Manitoba was observed to be operating illegally on 144.100 MHz. The company in question had purchased VHF radios from a US based supplier who failed to indicate correct licensing procedures.

Once contacted by Radio Amateurs of Canada the company agreed to immediately cease operating in the two meter band and shifted its operation to a business band frequency. Industry Canada was notified of the incursion and continues to work with the company to secure a licensed channel. In addition to illegally transmitting inside the amateur radio two meter band, this operation posed a threat to low signal operations across a wide portion of North America

In the second matter, a home moving company was observed to be operating on 144.940 MHz. The company in question is based in Winkler, Manitoba, but the operation was observed in Alberta during the moving of a house.

In this case, the company had already been licensed to specific frequencies with Industry Canada. However it had requested 144.940 MHz as a channel. Their request was denied and a business band channels were issued. However, the company failed to check its license paperwork and assumed it had been approved for their requested frequency.

As in the first case, the moving company was also contacted by Radio Amateurs of Canada and agreed to move their operations to their correctly licensed frequencies. Given their wide geographic operations Industry Canada had licensed their operation on four separate frequencies including 140.730, 154.325, 158.940 and 151.730 MHz.

In both cases, it appears that frequencies in the two meter band were chosen by these businesses because their new vhf radios defaulted to that frequency range. This is definitely an indicator that the actual radio gear being used is likely to be modified amateur radio transceivers.

The use of equipment intended for amateur radio operation outside of the amateur bands or by persons who do not hold a Canadian Amateur Radio Certificate is illegal. What punitive action Industry Canada might impose on the two companies for their incursion into the 2 meter band is at this time unknown. *(RAC, VE4WO)*

Upcoming Events

Sat., Oct. 13, 2012

[HARC Hamfest 2012](#) - The
Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
Ancaster Fair Grounds

Sat., Nov. 3, 2012

[York Region Hamfest 2012](#) –
York Region Amateur Radio
Club

Markham Fairgrounds - located at
10801 McGowan Road on the North
East corner of McCowan Road and Elgin
Mills Road

Sat., Nov. 17, 2012

[KARC Hamfest 2012](#) - Kingston
Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and
Military Communications &
Electronics Museum

95 Craftsman Blvd, Kingston

Sunday, June 2, 2013

[Central Ontario Hamfest &
Fleamarket](#) - Guelph ARC &
Kitchener-Waterloo ARC

Waterloo Regional Police Association
Recreation Centre, R.R. 2, 1128 Rife
Rd. North Dumfries Township. Beside
Hwy 401, between exits 268 & 275

Every Saturday Morning

starting at 8:30 am.
Breakfast at the Cottage
Restaurant. Located across the
street from the London Police
Station on Dundas St.

If you have an upcoming event
that you would like to have
listed here, please forward the
information to John Visser,
VA3MSV at
va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll
add it to the list.

FAA To Begin Investigation Of Broadband Devices On Flights

September 14, 2012

It's going to be a while before airline passengers can use their wireless electronic devices during an entire flight.

On Monday, August 27th the Federal Aviation Administration said that it is starting a process to study the issue, with a timeline that means it will take at least until March 2013 for a recommendation and likely longer for action.

Smartphones, laptops and tablet computers are common in the passenger cabin, and some pilots are using these devices in flight. But passengers have to shut off electronic devices when the plane is below 10,000 feet because of worries that they might interfere with electronics in the cockpit. And anything that has a broadband connection that cannot be disabled must be kept off for the entire flight.

Now, in its recent statement, the FAA says that it will form a committee to study the issue for six months and then make recommendations. The group will include representatives of the mobile technology companies, aircraft manufacturers, airlines, pilots, flight attendants, and even representatives of passenger associations. The agency will also ask for public input. The FAA often uses such aviation rulemaking committees when it is considering regulatory changes and their discussions often last months and sometimes even years.

It should be noted that the FAA doesn't actually ban the devices. However its rules state that airlines can only allow devices that have been tested and proven not to interfere with a given make and model aircraft's electronics. With thousands of devices on the market and new ones coming out each day, airlines simply ban them all during takeoff and landing. And it looks as if that's the way it will continue for some time to come.

As to ever getting permission for hams to use radio gear like handie-talkies on a commercial airline flight? There is no consideration being given to ever permit any hobby radio electronics to be used. The FAA says that allowing cell phone use during flights isn't under consideration either. *(FAA, RW, other published reports)*

First Two Amateurs Licensed In The Republic Of South Sudan

September 19, 2012

By James Pratt, K7QI

The Republic of South Sudan is finally active on the Amateur bands thanks to the help and guidance from the Ministry of Telecommunications and Postal Services located in Juba. The first amateur to be licensed is James Pratt (Z81A). James is from Lake Stevens, WA and licensed as K7QI. The QSL manager for Z81A is Frank Remington (K7GSE). The second operator is Diya (Z81D), and works for the UN-WFP (World Food Program). His QSL manager is Stefan Horecky (OM3JW). Also to note is the approval of the third amateur (Z88Z) who has plans to setup and operate remotely. With the list of call signs the ITU-R1 has given to South Sudan, Diya and I will work closely with the Ministry to spread the group of call signs throughout all 10 States of South Sudan. For now, only Z81A and Z81D are active so please be patient with us as we do our best to confirm as many QSO's as possible.

HF Corner for September 2012

by David Lambert, VE3KGK

Editor Note: You can hear Dave make an HF contact on YouTube at the following link.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQky1tug-MY>

Oct 1 to 15	5U5U	Niger		SSB
Oct 5 to Nov 1	PJ6	Saba & St Eustatius	CW	SSB
Oct 2 to 8	JT1EV	Mongolia		SSB
Oct 2 to 27	5H2DK	Tanzania		SSB
Oct 3 to 16	TT8TT	Chad	CW	SSB
Oct 4 to 9	AH0KT	Mariana Island		
Oct 4 to 19	TO2M	Mayotte	CW	SSB
Oct 5 to 10	T88IK	Palau		SSB
Oct 5 to 11	KH8	Western Samoa		
Oct 5 to 11	7Z7AB	Saudi Arabia		
Oct 6 to 12	VK9XM	Christmas Island	CW	SSB
Oct 6 to 15	FO	French Polynesia	CW	
Oct 8 to 14	HBO	Liechtenstein	CW	
Oct 8 to Dec 15	5H3NP	Tanzania		
Oct 11 to 15	3D2ZY	Fiji		
Oct 12 to Nov 1	V47JA	St Kitts & Nevis		SSB
Oct 15 to 19	FO	French Polynesia	CW	
Oct 15 to Dec 12	5X1NH	Uganda		some SSB
Oct 16 to 23	3B9SP	Rodrigues Island	CW	SSB
Oct 16 to 25	T30PY	West Kiribati	CW	SSB
Oct 17 to 21	P40Z	Aruba	Contest	
Oct 17 to Dec 10	H44MS	Solomom Island		SSB
Oct 18 to 29	XX9	Macao		
Oct 19 to 22	P29 VCX	Papua New Guinea		
Oct 20 to Nov 4	S79	Seychelles	CW	SSB
Oct 22 to 31	CY0	Sable Island	CW	SSB
Oct 22 to Nov 3	6V7S	Senegal		
Oct 23 to 29	KH8	American Samoa	CW	SSB
Oct 23 to 30	VP2MXU	Montserrat		
Oct 26 to Nov 5	5V7TH	Togo	CW	SSB
Nov 1 to 9	ZL7A	Chatham Island	CW	SSB
Nov 3 to 10	YJ0AFO	Vanuatu	CW	SSB
Nov 5 to 22	5Z4	Kenya	CW	

Note: Those who might have wanted/needed 3D2C, Conway Reef should know that, like Swain's Island, NH8S, the Conway operation closed down at 2359 Z on Oct 2 two days earlier than planned or announced, rather than on October 4th as originally promised. I have not yet learned the reason for the early shut-down. Swain's early shut-down reason was given as high heat, too many mosquitoes, and sun burn.

Those operations listed which do not have a mode listed with them can be checked on DX Watch. Some of the operations will include digital modes as well.

Just type DX watch into your favourite search engine and look at the page displayed. The information updates every 15 seconds or so but you can change that rate. You can also change how many stations you wish to see displayed from the default 15 to up to 50.

Bear in mind that by the time an operator spots a DX station and puts it up on DX Watch, there will likely be a pile up going when you find the station listed, and the station may be operating split frequency. That is often listed as additional information where the spotting station will add "listening up 5-15".

DXCC News: ARRL Approves A Dozen Operations For DXCC

September 21, 2012

A busy day at the ARRL's DXCC Desk with word that an even dozen operations have been approved for DXCC credit.

According to Bill Moore, NC1L at the ARRL Awards Desk, the following 2012 operations have been approved for DXCC credit. In no particular order they are the 3B8/IW5ELA operation from Mauritius

Island; E40VB from Palestine; JY8VB from Jordan; 9A8VB from Croatia; E7/UA4WHX from Bosnia-Herzegovina; 4O7VB from Montenegro; Z38VB from Macedonia; ZA/UA4WHX from Albania; YU9VB from Serbia, EY8/UA4WHX from Tajikistan and the UN/UA4WHX operation from Kazakhstan.

And that's quite a list. (*ARRL DXCC Desk*)

DX News: Kosovo Now Officially On The Air

September 28, 2012

The Republic of Kosovo is now officially on the air. Station Z60K near Pristina commenced amateur radio operation shortly after 1700 UTC on September 17th. The call had been issued to the club station of the Amateur Radio Association of Kosovo. For this operation QSL via G3TXF or using ClubLog.

It has to be noted that as Kosovo is not yet a member of the United Nations nor does it have an assigned callsign block allocated by the International Telecommunications Union, it does not meet the established requirements of the ARRL's DXCC program at this time. However CQ has recognized Kosovo as a separate entity for its award and contest programs since 2007. More is on line at www.art-ks.org (*DXNL, CQ Newsroom*)

PLMRS Narrowbanding Takes Effect On January 1, 2013

September 14, 2012

The FCC has sent out a notice to the manufacturers, importers, distributors and users of Private Land Mobile two-way radio that the deadline to switch to 12.5 KHz narrow band transmission is January 1, 2013. This is for two-way radio gear that operates in the 150 to 174 MHz and 421 to 470 MHz frequency bands, not including the 2 meter or 70 centimeter Amateur Service spectrum from 144 to 148 MHz or 430 to 450 MHz.

According to the FCC the reason for this mandated change is to promote the efficient use of private land mobile radio spectrum and to facilitate the introduction of advanced technologies. In other words, this government edict is not only applicable to analog FM based communications but to current and all future digital modes as well.

The FCC also notes that Private Land Mobile Radio licensees are not required, at this time, to modify their licenses to remove wideband emission designators. However, the presence of a wideband

emission designator on a license does not authorize operation after January 1, 2013 that does not comply with the new narrowbanding standards.

The FCC release also reminds manufacturers, subject to the limited exceptions, that they must cease manufacturing and importing equipment that is capable of 25 kHz mode operation in the VHF and UHF bands by the narrowbanding transition deadline.

While the Amateur Service is exempt from the new narrowbanding mandate, do not be to surprised if future generations of off the shelf VHF and UHF ham gear is built to conform to this new commercial radio standard. Especially if a manufacturers primary business is in supplying Private Land Mobile Service radio gear with ham gear as a secondary product line. It's simply less expensive for them to do it that way. (*FCC*)

Keep Your Kids Away From Button Batteries

September 14, 2012



And finally this week a warning from the Center for Disease Control saying that children and small button batteries are a dangerous and increasingly common problem for one another.

According to a new Center for Disease Control report, in 1998 battery related injuries sent 1,900 children to the emergency room. In 2010 that number had risen to 4,800 cases being reported.

Overall, more than 40,000 children were admitted to Emergency Rooms nationwide between 1997 and 2010. Almost three quarters of them were 4 years old or younger. One in 10 children required hospitalization. 14 of them died.

Now the CDC has singled out button batteries as the most potentially harmful type for young children to be near. These are the small, thin round batteries often used to power watches, hearing aids, and other small devices. They are easy to swallow and can get stuck in a child's esophagus leading to serious injury or death. In fact, the CDC report says that twelve of the fourteen child mortalities were attributed to button batteries and that the remaining two also likely involved them.

The data, primarily from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System was collected and analyzed by the federal Consumer Product Safety Commission. The report states that the CPS is urging the electronics industry and battery manufacturers to develop warnings and industry standards to prevent serious injuries and deaths from button batteries.

The symptoms of battery ingestion include vomiting, abdominal pain, fever, and diarrhea, as well as difficulty breathing and swallowing. As these symptoms can be attributed to numerous causes, it is difficult to diagnose battery ingestion quickly. The report's authors point out that this is especially true when a child swallows a battery when no one is around to see them do it.

Battery safety standards for children's toys are dictated by law. All batteries must be inaccessible in toys designed for children under age three, while toys for kids under age twelve must make batteries under a certain size inaccessible. Even so, at least three of the deaths noted in the report were caused by batteries from devices not meant for children. These including a remote car alarm, a garage door opener, and a radio remote control.

A new law is being considered by Congress that may require child-proofing for button battery enclosures on all consumer products. Meantime it's important that parents and caregivers should be aware of the potential hazards associated with battery exposure and ensure that products containing them are either kept away from children or that the batteries are secured safely in the product.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission says that if a child swallows a battery that you immediately contact your local poison control center, your family doctor, or the 24-hour National Battery Ingestion Hotline at 202-625-3333. You can learn more about this hazard and how to proceed in the event a child does swallow a battery at www.tinyurl.com/kids-button-batteries. (CDC)

Ham Radio In Space: 200 Micro Ham Birds To Be Launched In One Mission

October 5, 2012

Two hundred tiny ham radio satellites will be going into space in the not to distant future. The project is called KickSat and we have more in this report.

KickSat is an amateur radio CubeSat technology mission designed to demonstrate the deployment and operation of prototype Sprite or tiny ChipSats developed at Cornell University. The KickSat spaceframe is a CubeSat being built to carry and deploy 200 Sprites that will provide an avionics bus

that will provide power, communications, command and data handling functions. It will be mated with a 2 unit deployer that has been developed to house the Sprites.

Approximately 200 Sprites will be stacked atop a spring-loaded pusher and secured by a nichrome burn wire system. Once on-orbit, the wire burns away the Sprites will spring out into space.

As to the Sprites, these are tiny spacecraft that includes power, sensor, and communication systems. Its built on a printed circuit board measuring 3.5 by 3.5 cm with a thickness of 2.5 mm and a mass of about 5 grams. The Sprite is intended as a general purpose sensor platform for micro-electro-mechanical or other chip-scale sensors with the ability to downlink data to ground stations from Low Earth Orbit.

After deployment, telemetry and sensor measurements from the individual Sprites will be received through Cornell's ground station in Ithaca, New York, as well as several other amateur radio ground stations around the world. The Sprites are expected to re-enter the atmosphere and burn up within a few days or weeks depending on

atmospheric conditions. Their best case maximum orbital lifetime is estimated at 6 weeks.

The development team is currently investigating uses for the KickSat spaceframe after the Sprite deployment and is seeking collaborators who could make use of its capabilities as part of another extended mission.

ChipSats like these Sprites represent a new technology that will both open space access to hobbyists and students and enable new types of science missions. A significant portion of KickSat has been financed by over 300 individual sponsors through a funding website. More is on-line at www.spacecraftresearch.com/KickSat. (*KickSat*)

Ham Radio In Space: New CubeSats Now On- Orbit

September 21, 2012

What might best be called a flotilla of new cubesats operating in the ham radio bands are now on-orbit.

The long awaited launch of a number of new ham radio cubesats has finally taken place. The group of tiny birds winged their way to Earth orbit on September 13th on board a The Atlas 5 launch vehicle from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

The launch carried a satellite for the National Reconnaissance Office. Also aboard this flight at four cubesats as part of NASA's Educational Launch of Nanosatellites mission and seven cubesats for government use. The non government mini-birds include the Cubesat for Ion, Neutral, Electron, Magnetic fields that downlinks its science telemetry is in 2200 to 2300 MHz range.

Also now on-orbit is the Colorado Student Space Weather Experiment that can be heard on 437.345

MHz transmitting 9k6 modulation in AX.25 protocol. Another is CP5 also known as PolySat with its downlink at 437.405 MHz at 1 watt, AFSK on Lower Sideband in AX.25 protocol. Rounding out the set is XBN which is a Cosmic X-Ray Background Nanosatellite with its downlink 437.525 MHz running G-F-S-K also in AX.25 protocol.

Several hours after launch Justin Foley, KI6EPH, announced via the Cubesat Internet Rely Channel that all of the microsats had been successfully deployed. A detailed article of the launch can be found on-line at www.tinyurl.com/microsats-to-orbit.

A detailed article on the payloads of this mission and the reason for the launch delays can be found on-line at www.tinyurl.com/multi-microsat-launch. (*ANS*)

Ham Radio In Space: Five CubeSats To Go On- Orbit From ISS

September 21, 2012

The long awaited deployment of five CubeSats from the International Space Station will take place on Thursday, September 27. Four of the micro sized birds carry amateur radio payloads. These

are identified as F-1, FITSAT-1, WE-WISH and TechEdSat. More about this microsat project is on-line at www.tinyurl.com/iss-micro-birds. (*AMSAT-UK*)

Ham Radio In Space: Dedicated CubeSat Downlinks For Discussion At WRC-18

September 28, 2012

IARU Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD, reports that the International Amateur Radio Union's Administrative Council will meet in the next 45 days to address the agenda items for the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference. Planning for the dedicated spectrum for university research cubesats will begin at that gathering, but the actual allocation of frequencies may not occur until the 2018 World Radiocommunication Conference.

In an article posted on the ARRL web, Stafford noted, "A lot of radio amateurs are aware of the increasing use of amateur spectrum by small satellites, mainly by universities. It is becoming an increasingly difficult situation to accommodate the number of small, non-commercial satellites within the amateur bands. These education-based satellites do not really fit within the definition of the Amateur Radio Service, but have been accommodated there.

According to W6ROD, these small birds are categorized as nano-satellites weighing between 1 to 10 kilogram and pico-satellites weighing less than 1 kilogram. The International Telecommunications Union is trying to deal with this issue in an orderly manner and a 'preliminary' WRC-18 agenda item is to consider whether these satellite operations can be accommodated in an already crowded radio spectrum is being researched.

Stafford concludes by noting that as these issues develop, the IARU will keep its Member-Societies, such as the ARRL, aware of developments with an eye to building the best strategy to deal with those agenda items in a way that is most favorable to the Amateur Radio Service.

You can read the full article, including many other IARU agenda items at www.tinyurl.com/looking-at-tinysats. (ANS, ARRL)

AA7BQ Announces Server Upgrades At QRZ.com

October 5, 2012

Some improvements at QRZ.com. Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, reports that he has added an additional server to the QRZ system and moved a few things around to improve performance for all users. Among the changes are that all servers have been upgraded to the latest Ubuntu Linux Edition 12.04. Also, various functions have been interchanged between the various cloud servers that host QRZ.com at Amazon Web Services.

AA7BQ says that so far the performance looks really great on all parts of the system. He notes that the callsign server, which was routinely at 90% busy now loafes along at around 50%.

You can read about all the changes made by taking your web browser to www.tinyurl.com/grz-improved-service. (QRZ.com)

Icom America Announces New Subsidiary In Brazil

September 21, 2012

Icom America has announced the establishment of Icom Brazil. This as a subsidiary with headquarters located in Belo Horizonte which is the capital city of Minas Gerais state.

The creation of the new subsidiary will allow the radio manufacturer to solidify its brand visibility in an emerging South American market. According to the Central Intelligence Agency's "World Factbook"

publication, Brazil became the world's seventh largest economy in terms of gross domestic product in 2011.

The initial objective of Icom Brazil will focus on the public safety industry with Brazil's government. The new subsidiary will also help existing distributors expand their dealer networks nationwide. (Icom, Southgate)

Pacificon To Feature New Media And Social Networking

September 21, 2012

And an update on plans for the joint Pacificon and ARRL 2012 National Convention. A major theme this year is New Media and Social Networking. And to emphasize its importance the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club and Pacificon have teamed up to host "Night of the New Media Elmers" with well-known amateur radio podcasters.

At airtime, speakers scheduled to appear include Jerry Taylor, KD0BIK, Randy Hall, K7AGE, Chris Matthieu, N7ICE, and Ham Nation co-host Gordon West, WB6NOA.

Jim Siemons, AF6PU, is the event's co-General Chairman. He says that forums and seminars are the very heart and soul of Pacificon:

AF6PU: "Pacificon specifically is a forum driven event and we have fantastic speakers from all over

the country. We've had Nobel Laureates and astronauts and all sorts of folks come out and talk about whatever you are into in amateur radio we are going to have something for you."

The New Media and Social Networking gathering takes place at 7 pm on Friday night, October 12th. The location is in the Sedona Ballroom of the Satern Conference Center at the Marriott Hotel and Convention Center in Santa Clara, California.

Pacificon has also created a Facebook page where you can post photos, videos, comments, and get up-to-date announcements about what's happening at the convention. To join it sign onto Facebook and then go to www.facebook.com/Pacificon2012 and click "Like" to join the page. *(MDARC, Pacificon)*

Ultra High Definition TV System Expects ITU Approval

September 21, 2012

The next generation of super high definition television may soon be on its way.

Ultra High Definition Television also known under the acronym Super Hi-Vision, will likely be approved by the International Telecommunication Union as the next generation universal global television standard.

Developed by public broadcaster NHK at its Science and Technical Research Laboratories, Ultra High Definition Television is a system that delivers 16 times the resolution of current high definition

images. The new format can deliver images with 33 million pixels through 7,680 horizontal lines and 4,320 vertical lines. It also boasts a video refresh rate of 120 frames per second, as well as 22.2 channel multi-dimensional sound.

The system is collaboration between NHK along with electronics manufacturers Panasonic and Sharp.

Test broadcasts are scheduled to begin in Japan by 2020. *(Published News Reports)*

9/11 FDNY Audio & NEW NORAD-FAA Audio on W5TXR.net Website

September 9, 2012

Again, every September, on my website www.w5txr.net is the historic FDNY 9/11 Audio as it unfolds!

NEW this year!! Just put up on my website, The FAA-NORAD recorded audio from the beginning of the 9/11 incident.

Warning! Both are very chilling!! The FAA-NORAD Audio is transcribed on the video.

The NORAD-FAA audio toggles between the FAA and NORAD. It is in chronological order!

www.w5txr.net, click on "Historical Audio Archives" then click on either the first or second 9/11 recording.

Mark A. Lacy, W5TXR

Last Man Standing Gets Special Event Call K6T

September 21, 2012

Editor Note: Read next article about FCC ruling on this Special Event Station.

And finally this week, word from Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, that the callsign K6T has been approved for use for the shows special event operation to be held on Sunday, October 28th. NN6JA says that K6T will take to the air at approximately 9 a.m. Pacific with exact bands and frequencies to be announced as the date gets closer. And according to Amodeo, he wants this to be a fun event that everyone can share in:

NN6JA: "We at the show are so excited about ham radio and we have so much incredibly cool amateur radio here; not to mention some 12 licensed amateur radio operators on the staff; that we decided why not share our good fortune with hams out around America and our ham (radio) fans in particular and get on the air and talk directly to our ham (radio) fans through all of our great gear.

"So we took a few minutes, put all of our antennas on the roof so we could improve our range; tuned everything up; and we are ready to go.

"So we are hoping everybody from around the country will take a few minutes away from contesting, because that is a big contest afternoon, and come on over (to where we are operating) and call us up."

NN6JA says that the current plan is to operate on the High Frequency, VHF and UHF bands as well as D-STAR, Echolink and IRLP. This should make it possible for hams anywhere to make contact with K6T.

NN6JA: "We are going to provide a large number of paths for people to get in so we kind of feel that everyone in the country should be able to find some path to get to our stage (ham radio operation) to talk to our crew and the PAPA members who are helping us out."

According to Amodeo, members of the LA based PAPA System will assist the licensed operators who are part of the shows the crew in running the event. They will use several PAPA System repeaters to run its local and linked communications. The operators will also be monitoring other linked repeater systems from around the country as well.

As the day approaches further information will be posted on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KA0XTT. Amodeo also says to monitor @nn6ja on Twitter for the fastest updates.

Last Man Standing stars actor and comedian Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT. The show airs on ABC.

(NN6JA, ARNewsline™)

Last Man Standing K6T Special Event Cancelled

September 28, 2012

The highly publicized Last Man Standing K6T operating event will not take place. This according to the television shows Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA.

The thank you to the ham radio community had been slated to happen on Sunday, October 28th. According to Amodeo the decision to cancel was based on concerns about a possible violation of FCC Regulation 97.113(a)(3).

For those not aware, this rule bars any communications using ham radio in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest. It also precludes any communications on behalf of an employer.

In making the announcement Amodeo notes that while everyone involved with the planned operation are very disappointed with the cancellation of what would have a fun, one of a kind event, that as a licensed radio amateur and producer of broadcast programs, compliance with FCC rules must take precedence.

Special event station K6T would have worked hams from around world on HF, VHF, UHF, D-STAR and IRLP. While that's not going to take place the good news is that the ham station that is a part of the set of Last Man Standing will remain and continue to be a part of the shows ongoing plot line. *(NN6JA)*

Shore Patrol: 95-Year-Old Runs A Tight Ship In Queen Mary Amateur Radio Room

October 4, 2012

By Joe Segura, Press-Telegram, Long Beach, CA Staff Writer

Nate Brightman is in charge of the amateur radio station on the Queen Mary.

Brightman, who turns 95 on Tuesday, was the inspiration for putting a radio room on the iconic ship.

These days he keeps the radio room staffed with volunteers, two in the morning, two in the afternoon shifts - a task he's been doing for more than 33 years.

The radio room was officially opened April 29, 1979, a festive affair of 500 guests entertained by a quartet, recalled Lynne Horn, Brightman's daughter.

Brightman is a native of Cleveland, but when he was 27 he decided to enjoy the warm weather of Southern California - after digging his car out from a snow mound - and moved to Long Beach in 1944.

As a professional photographer, mainly doing baby portraits, he was able to raise a family - a son, Howard, and daughter Horn. He's a grandfather of three and great-grandfather of two.

Brightman became interested in radio transmissions when his 10-year-old son took up the hobby. As a member of a local radio club, he thought it would be neat to have the radio on the Queen Mary, according to Horn.

He worked to get manufacturers to donate transmission equipment for the radio room. He also spent considerable time, the past 36 years, volunteering for the Red Cross, often teaching blind kids ham radio.

In appreciation for the key role he played in establishing and maintaining the radio room, it was named after Nate Brightman on his 90th birthday.



The radio room allows tourists to contact loved ones around the world, letting them know how wonderful Long Beach is.

"Nate is a man of commitment, caring and selflessness," Horn said.

Friends will gather Sunday at the Petroleum Club for an early birthday celebration.

Ship's open house

In celebration of Seal Beach Founder's Day and the 237th birthday of the U.S. Navy, the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station is hosting an open house for a state-of-the-art missile destroyer, USS Sampson.

The public can visit the warship and meet its crew on Oct. 13 and 14.

Saturday tours will be from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Sunday tours will be provided from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Hands-on displays of Navy and Marine Corps equipment will also be available.

USS Sampson was commissioned in 2007, and was one of the ships featured in the summer blockbuster movie "Battleship," according to station spokesman Gregg Smith.

The vessel recently returned from a six-month deployment to the western Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean.

The tour is free and no reservations are required.

No backpacks or handbags will be allowed on the ship. The vessel isn't wheelchair accessible.

Public entry will be available via the station's Wharf Gate, located on Seal Beach Boulevard, 200 yards south of the Pacific Coast Highway intersection. No access is available from the station's main gate.

Additional information and live updates are on the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Facebook page. More information on USS Sampson is at www.sampson.navy.mil/.

joe.segura@presstelegram.com, 562-714-2167, twitter.com/JoeSeguraPT

MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

-- Membership application and dues are currently requested.

Our term of membership runs from November 1 to October 31 of the following year. Each and every year it is increasingly more difficult to get Amateurs to commit to membership in their local club due to the alternate functions we are asked to fund.

The **London Amateur Radio Club** has a long history of providing technical support, social support and repeater facilities. Public service efforts are currently provided by a club affiliation with Amateur Radio Emergency Services (**ARES**) and **Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)**.

Your Directors work tirelessly to provide meeting topics that are informative and entertaining, events that are timely (Christmas meeting, field day, bus trip) and participate in events that display and promote Amateur Radio in the community.

To be effective in its pursuits, the Club needs the support of the local Amateur fraternity through membership.

While we obtain financial support from our Annual Flea Market, we require membership support to fund such things as meeting hall rent, repeater sites rent and maintenance, web site fees, membership cards and liability insurance. For what it's worth, none of these things are getting any cheaper.

The cost of membership has not changed for a number of years and even in the face of increased cost, we would like to keep it that way.

With more than 1000 'hams' in the London area, it's inconceivable that less than 10% support a pastime about which most of us are passionate.

PLEASE, make a choice and do your part to keep the **London Amateur Radio Club** alive and well by purchasing your membership at our next meeting (or by mail – details on our web site). The cost is still only \$25.00 (single) or \$30.00 (family residing at the same address).

Invitation
to the

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 2012



An amateur radio, computer, and electronics flea market.

Saturday, October 13th
the Saturday following Thanksgiving

Located in the Concession Building at the Ancaster Fair Grounds
630 Trinity Road, Ancaster, L0R 1R0
the south-west corner of highways #52 and #53, just west of Ancaster
Latitude 43° 11' 25" N Longitude 80° 02' 32" W

General Admission: \$7.00 per person
Doors open at 9:00 a.m.
Talk-in 146.76 (-) with tone 131.8 VE3NCF
Parking on site

All tables \$10.00 each (regular 8' table)
Vendor admission @ \$7.00 per person
Make cheques payable to
Hamilton Amateur Radio Club (HARC)
Vendor access after 7:00 a.m.

vendor liaison: Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca 'phone: 905-648-0187
mail payment to: **The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club,**
117-350 King Street East, P.O. Box 75073, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 4G6
Tables are reserved upon receipt of payment on a first come basis. Please book in advance to avoid disappointment.

Commercial vendors including

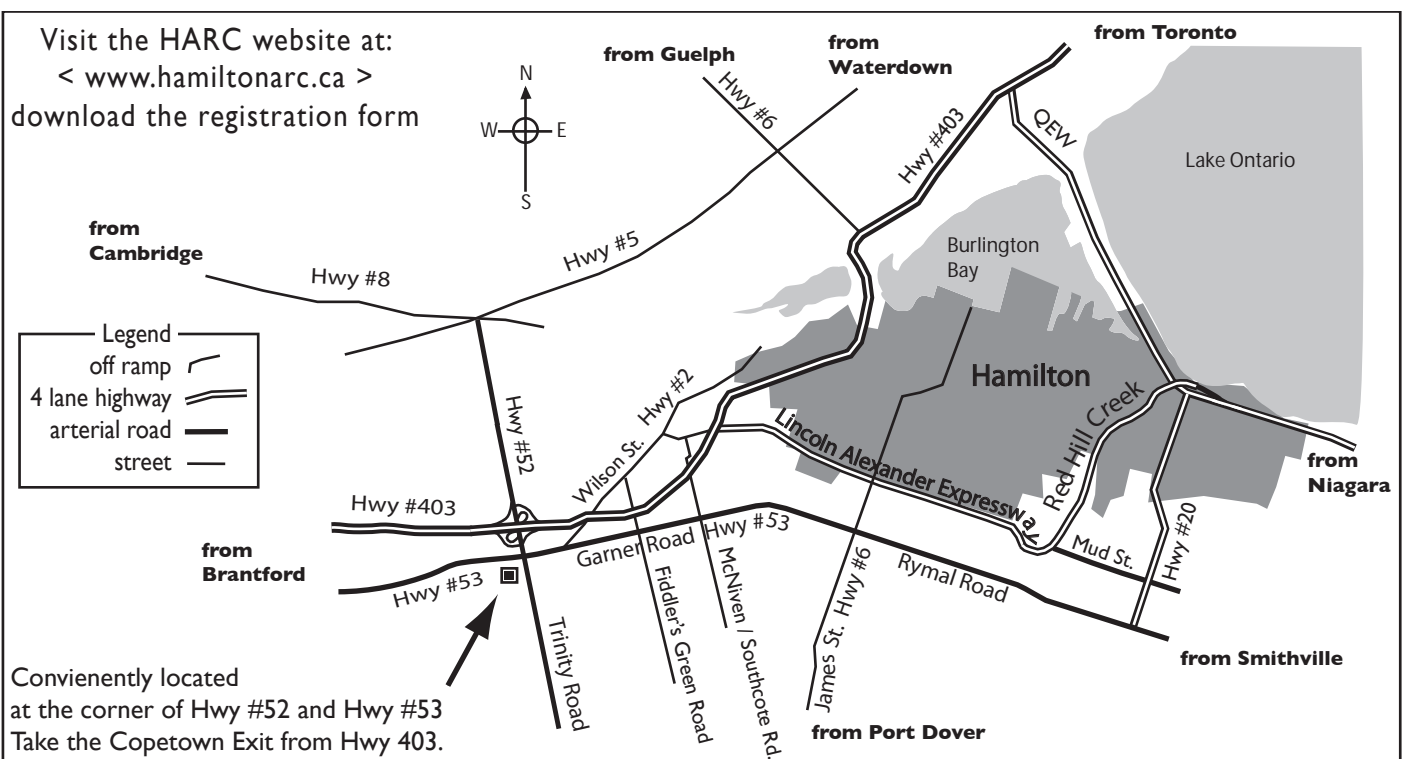
Radioworld

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Communications

Durham Radio

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< www.hamiltonarc.ca >
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