



CAARA Newsletter



CAPE ANN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 2014

President's Desk by Stan-W4HIX



July for me usually means focusing on the Field Day report. The report requires first downloading the logs from the N1MM. N1MM does a nice job of providing the QSOs in the right format of bands and modes. These are entered either into a both a paper form and online, for which we earn 50 bonus points. Also entered are the bonus points for each category. This establishes the score, a combination of QSOs and bonus points.

The next thing that has to be done is preparing the supporting documentation for the bonus points. This turns out to be a lengthy process. Each bonus point category must have some type of evidence of completion. In one case, handing NTS messages, a copy of each message is included—all 20 messages. Another bonus item was the ARRL bulletin, which was copied in two sessions on a couple of digital modes. This year the best copy was on 80m, but not perfectly copied, so other modes had to be consulted to get a 100% copy. You discover quickly how difficult it can be to get perfect copy on as little as one paragraph in difficult conditions. This is important training for real emergency situations.

The visitor logs are scanned and included to verify our claim of number of participants (no bonus), attendance by elected officials and served agencies. This year we checked the visitor log to figure out how many CAARA members participated. We had 30 members, which is 27% of the membership. Not bad, but we can do better in the future.

So Field Day is over and we have a cookout in August (date TBD) and then the Annual Meeting in September. Just a heads up...I have a trip planned for the first two weeks in September, so the meeting is likely to be delayed to the third week in September. At this meeting we will have the Annual Report by yours truly, and election of officers. This is my last term, so if you've ever wanted to be

president of an amateur radio club, here's your chance (I can cross it off of my bucket list now). Seriously, plan to attend, as this is the most important meeting of the year.

73 de Stan, W4HIX
stan@w4hix.com

Information Desk by Dean-KB1PGH



**CAARA member Hank
McCarl W4RIG appointed
ARRL State Government
Liaison !**

ARRL EMA Section Manager Phil Temples K9HI has announced that Hank McCarl W4RIG has been appointed ARRL State Government Liaison on behalf of the amateur radio community in Massachusetts! Hank has already held the post of local government liaison for a few years now. The State Government liaison role is a very proactive role where Hank will monitor state and local legislation that might affect amateur radio operators. Hank will be dealing directly with Beacon Hill and he and CAARA already have a close connection with Massachusetts State Senator and amateur radio operator Bruce Tarr N1UIU. Hank and Bruce have worked together in the past and this year as well to obtain Proclamations from the Massachusetts Statehouse honoring the 100th ARRL Anniversary and the annual field day weekends. Hank will also be monitoring and helping out with communicating with the local zoning boards about the FCC regulations of amateur radio such as antenna regulations as they may pertain to their local by laws. Hank will be promoting and defending the amateur radio hobby and its members with state and

local elected officials. Especially with legislation that may negatively affect amateur radio operations while driving. One of Hanks missions is to keep a positive communication flow to resolve situations
(cont. p 3)



CAARA Newsletter
Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association
6 Stanwood Street
Gloucester, MA 01930

CAARA Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association (CAARA). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to CAARA members, and space is available. Material is accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Articles and other materials may be submitted by internet to Jon at k1tp@arrl.net. If possible, material should be in Word format. Material may also be submitted as hard copy to Jon-K1TP or any Club Officer.

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Jon Cunningham- K1TP Editor
Dean Burgess- KB1PGH Reporter

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Welcome to CAARA:

CAARA, an ARRL affiliated club, operates the 2 meter W1GLO repeater on 145.130 MHz with antennas located on the Cingular tower in the Blackburn Industrial Complex in Gloucester Massachusetts. It has an average effective radius of 60 miles, and serves Eastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, Rhode Island, Southern New Hampshire, and maritime mobile stations. CAARA also operates the W1GLO repeater on 224.900. The former W1RK 443.700 repeater with antennas located in Magnolia is now located at the CAARA clubhouse and has a very limited range.

The Association is one of the few amateur radio clubs that has its own clubhouse. Located at 6 Stanwood Street in Gloucester, it includes a permanent HF station with rotating beam and vertical antenna along with a 2 meter packet station and 2 meter voice and 220 MHz transceivers.

Amateur radio exams are held on the second Sunday of each month at 10:00AM at the CAARA clubhouse. Anyone who is considering a new license or an upgrade, is welcome to test with us. There is no pre-registration necessary. Contact the head of our VE team Bob Quinn if you have any questions about monthly testing. Monthly member meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM except for July and August

Each Sunday evening at 9:00pm, the club operates a 2 meter net on 145.130. This is an open and informal net which disseminates club news and prepares operators for emergency communications work. All are invited to check into the net as club membership is not a requirement.

New! The club is open every Tuesday from 4-8PM for CAARA members to stop by and socialize, as well as use the extensive collection of ham radio gear.

Information Desk

by Dean-KB1PGH



between local and state governments and ham radio operators. So good luck to Hank and his new post!

So I thought this month that it would be interesting to take a look at the breakdown of the numbers of FCC amateur radio operator licenses. You can find these facts at ARS Statistics online and they do all the work at looking at the FCC ULS database. So here we go. As of June 2014 there are a grand total of 725,216 amateur radio licenses issued in the U.S. Now before we go any further who really knows how many ACTIVE licenses there are out there. Now go figure if a ham dies today it could be up to 10 years before the license expires. I guess one way of maybe looking at how many active licenses are is looking at the ARRL membership. There are currently about 150,000 ARRL members. So as of June 2014 there are 725,216 amateur radio licenses issued. There are 135,000 Extra class, 168,810 General class and 356,135 Technician class licenses. There are also 52,661 Advance class licenses and 12,609 Novice class licenses still out there left over before the license classes were reorganized in early 2007. Out of 725,216 licenses 15% of those are female operators and 23% of the 725,261 licensees have ARRL memberships. There are also 11,428 amateur radio licenses granted to clubs such as CAARA's WIGLO. Now in Massachusetts there are 13,315 amateur radio operators and 9718 hams in the ARRL's eastern massachusetts section alone. There is an interesting chart that shows Massachusetts having 14,250 hams in the early 2000's, then the number start to drop off to 12,750 in 2008 through 2009. Then the number increases to the current 13,315 as of June 2014 so we have gained almost 500 new hams in the past 5 years. The same drop off trend then slow rise can be seen nationally too after the no code tests went into effect in early 2007. It looks like the number of hams has stabilized in the past year in Massachusetts as well. So take what you will from the data, at least now you have an idea of how many hams are out there. Moving on it seems that things may be getting better at CQ Magazine. I actually got my June edition in June! Well it was on the 26th of June but that certainly is an improvement. Hopefully things will remain that way from now on. On another topic, lets take a look at one of the benefits of being a ARRL member. Now of course no one like to buy insurance for your house and especially

your car but you can actually buy ham radio equipment insurance through the ARRL. They work through Hays Insurance and you can buy a policy for all your ham gear including antennas and rotors! I've been pondering buying a policy myself considering all the portable ops I do. All you do is register the full replacement value of your equipment at a rate of \$1.40 per \$100 insured with a \$50.00 deductible. You can do this now all online on the insurance section on the ARRL website. Just think of a lightning strike near your home frying all your ham gear or the chance of it being stolen at your home or at portable ops? I can think of at least insuring your HF rig and antenna. Just for myself I could insure my Icom 7000 for \$1200 and Buddipole antenna system for \$800 and pay just \$28.00 a year! Not bad for peace of mind. CAARA has the same policy for all the club equipment. So that's something to consider. So 73 until next month!

Editor Roundup

by Jon-K1TP



Well, I got the portable operation bug again. I have been camping for years and always bring along a HF radio, my pneumatic antenna launcher and a Cobra Wire Antenna. All is well when there are a lot of trees around to string up a 120 foot antenna.

I thought it would be cool to try a Buddipole setup for operating around the beach area in Rockport. I knew we had a buddipole at the club so I decided to go over and set it up. I did my homework and read the instructions online and watched a YouTube video on how to set it up as well. I figured "nothing to it, I can set that thing in up in ten minutes".

Well two hours later and with the added help of Jake-W1LDL, we did set it up but it was deaf as a haddock on receive and we never got the SWR down to under 1.5 to 1. I was dissapointed to say the least.

I think I will have to see the "Buddipole Master", Dean-KBPGH and get some 'hands on' help in the near future. I have used the Outback antenna as well as the Hamsticks with pretty good success and that might be the next direction I go in.

Field Day was a lot of fun, I sat around and never did get on the air. I did eat well and brought my antenna launcher and got the long wire setup with Jake and Larry.

This fall our new Education Director, Gardi-KB1BTK, will be offering some classes.....stay tuned!

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE CAARA EMCOM CENTER?

CAARA Public Service Round Up for August

CAARA members donated another 47 hrs of public service providing auxiliary communications to all the runners in the annual Fiesta 5 K on June 26th at 6 PM and for the Gloucester Horribles Parade on July 3rd at 6 PM. Both events went off without incidents. The Fiesta 5 K started at Stage Fort park and looped around Rogers and Main Street before heading towards St Peter's Square. The thunderstorms held off for the Horribles Parade as CAARA members kept the parade moving at a decent pace. The only incident was before the parade when a woman's foot was run over by a float. The following CAARA members participated in these two events. For the Fiesta 5 K: Stan Stone W4HIX, Curtis Wright AA3JE, Ron Beckly N1RJB, Dave Gooch KB1ZBO, Roger Smith KB1YTJ, Hank McCarl W4RIG and Gardi Winchester KA1BTK. For the Horribles Parade it was: Dean Burgess KB1PGH, Rick Savage KB1LYJ, Kathy Savage KB1LPW, Chris Andrade KC1AEG, Bruce Pigott KC1US, Hank McCarl W4RIG, Sue Downey N1XQW, Gardy Winchester KA1BTK, Stan Stone W4HIX, Matt Knowles KC1AEI and Curtis Wright AA3JE
courtesy of Dean-KB1PGH



DXCC MANAGER BILL MORE NC1L INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENT Bill Kennamer, K5FUV, reports via the Daily DX bulletin that ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, was seriously injured in an automobile accident about two weeks ago. His neck was broken, leaving him paralyzed from his upper body down, with limited movement of his arms. Kennamer says that NC1L's recovery will be difficult and slow, and is not expected to be total. According to K5FUV, Bill would like to hear from his friends in the ham radio community. He is currently in the Mount Sinai Rehab Hospital in Hartford, but cards and get well wishes should be sent to his home address at 92 Reservoir Rd, Newington, Connecticut, 06111. (Daily DX, Southgate)



Sunday morning at the club putting back the 6 meter beam's from Field Day until next year.



Alinco DM 330MV Power Supply for sale

This power supply is about 7 years old, everything works except the meter. So if you don't care about the meter, and want to fix it yourself it's a good deal. Yes, it puts out the correct voltage and amperage. I just used it the other day on my Icom 7000 and was able to check the voltage and amperage with the Watts Up meter and all is well. I am selling because I got the upgraded model that has the USB ports. This model sells for \$165 new so this is more than half off. I've had no problem with any RFI or EMI on the HF bands with this power supply. This power supply has gotten great reviews on www.eham.net. If you're not familiar with this power supply it has two posts in the back

with a cooling fan but I haven't seen this supply get hot though. It also has the 10 amp cigarette plug and 5 amp plugs in the front. It has a voltage adjustment from 9 to 15 volts which works and has a noise adjustment offset control in case one does get RFI. If you're interested please contact Dean Burgess KB1PGH at dburg101@aol.com



Gardi- KB1BTK all setup and ready to go!

*photos from WRTC2014
Bob Wilson, N6TV. photo*

FOR SALE

Kenwood TS 950S DIGITAL
desk mike and manual
Original cost \$4000.00

Asking \$950.00
Contact Bob- WV1A
978-479-7653

Oh Well, Yes, It might be Sexist.....

by Curtis- AA3JE

No one would call “SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED” a feminist. She is rather old fashioned about that and believes in equality of the sexes, but with clear lines of demarcation of authority.

Anything involving flowers, art, literature, beauty, proper manners, the raising of children and good cooking is women’s work.

Anything involving animal waste, flatulence, automotive maintenance, heavy lifting and making sure there is enough money is men’s work.

So it was with great surprise that I found her looking over my language textbook and expressing significant disapproval. You can tell this by the angle of her nose. When it looks like she has detected a foul odor, it means she is not happy.

“YOU NEED A NEW BOOK”, she said.

“I beg your pardon?”

Up until now she had turned a cold and indifferent shoulder to my late-life language studies, expressing her opinion that I was just training myself for some future mail order bride when she cashed in her chips. (She is unaware that Korean women are domestic matriarchs and that with a little eye makeup she could pass for Korean ANY day.)

“I SAID YOU NEED A NEW

BOOK! YOU ARE SO DEAF! IT IS ANNOYING!”

“I heard you the first time, but don’t understand why I need a new book. What is wrong with this book?”

“YOU DON’T KNOW?”

With a shameful head, I admitted I did not.

“YOU ARE READING IT, ARE YOU NOT?”

“Every day, studying hard.”

“WELL THEN YOU KNOW.”

I had no idea, and said so.

“YOU DON’T THINK THIS BOOK IS SEXIST?”

“Pretend I have impoverished intellect and explain it to me.”



“IT IS S O O O O OBVIOUS”

“I don’t understand.”

“READ THIS DIALOG TRAINING SECTION HERE”

I did so. It was a nasty one where you had to make some peculiarly Korean sounds which tended to tie your tongue up in knots.

“WELL?”

“The conditional future imperative is kind of hard to pronounce. It sounds like the cat is getting sick

with its head in a bucket.....”

“I DON’T GIVE A HOOT ABOUT HOW YOU PRONOUNCE IT. DID YOU READ IT?”

“I just said I had some trouble with the future imperative tense.....”

“LOOK! YOU READ THE MAN’S PART AND I’LL READ THE GIRL’S RESPONSE!”

“I had no idea you had been studying.....”

“NOT IN KOREAN, IDIOT! IN ENGLISH.”

“But I already know English. I’m pretty good at it.....”

“JUST READ IT!”

So I sat in the front of my chair, held the book between us, and freeing my diaphragm for best effect began. I read well, it is an affectation, I know, but I enjoy it.

“Do you eat?”, I began. The parenthesis called for (*Formal, polite language*)

“OF COURSE, WHAT A QUESTION!”

“No, I mean do you want to eat right now?”

“NO, I AM NOT HUNGRY.”

“Well, I wanted you to have lunch with me.” (*informal tone suitable for a friend*)

“I’M FINE, I DON’T WANT TO EAT RIGHT NOW.”

“How about drinking?”

"I'M NOT THIRSTY."

"I was thinking of beer or vodka."

"I DON'T WANT A DRINK."

"I was thinking we might have a drink now."

"NO, I AM NOT GOING TO GO DRINKING RIGHT NOW!"

"Well, if it's not convenient...."

"IT IS NOT CONVENIENT AT ALL."

"I just thought you might have a drink with me...." (use most informal, intimate caste).

"I DON'T WANT TO GO DRINKING TODAY" (high formal!)

"Not even with me?" (family caste)

"NOT WITH YOU, NOT WITH ANYBODY, I AM BUSY." (most formal)

"What time do you want to go drinking tomorrow?"

"WITH WHOM WOULD THAT BE?"

"With me, of course."

"I DON'T WANT TO GO DRINKING WITH YOU TOMORROW, OR EVER!"

"Six o'clock would be good."

"I DON'T WANT TO DRINK OR EAT WITH YOU TOMORROW AT SIX!"

"We could go later."

"NO DRINKING TOMORROW!"

"How about the day after tomorrow?"

SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED stopped and turned to me. This is always an impressive maneuver which always reminds me of one of the great ocean liners returning to port. The word majestic, or perhaps imperious comes to mind.....

"SO DO YOU GET IT NOW?"

"Well, most of it, but the "tschp" sound after the "mashigo" syllabic cluster is very hard to pronounce....."

She looked at me, and a flash of what might or might not be sympathy flashed over her features.

"YOU REALLY DON'T GET IT?"

I had to hang my head again.

"Not really. It covers a lot of linguistic territory and is awfully hard to pronounce some of the conjugations.....The numbers are easy....."

"OH NEVER MIND. HONESTLY, WHY I BOTHER....."

It took about 20 more times, but I finally did figure out how to get the "tschp" sound crammed in there.

Women, hard to understand, really. Complex and beautiful creatures, but baffling. So baffling. Mysterious, that's the word, mysterious.....or maybe subtle.....



EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: RING IN DEVELOPMENT AT MIT WILL HELP THE BLIND TO READ

When we think of communications usually the words radio or broadband tend to come into our mind. But for those who are blind, getting access to the printed word makes communications take on a more far reaching meaning. Amateur Radio Newslines Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has the details of a new development that holds a lot of promise in this area: — Over the years several devices have been devised to assist the blind to read text. The problem is that most have been fairly large or they require some form of scanner coupled to a computer. Now comes word of a totally new and wearable unit developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Lab promises far more flexibility to those who cannot see. The device, which is still in its prototype stage, is being called the Finger Reader. A tiny camera at the tip of the wearers' finger converts text into audio. The ring scanner also has the ability to track when the users finger goes off the line of text with alert that vibrates the ring. ? A market-ready version of the Finger Reader is still quite some time off, and there is no price point set on it yet. But the researchers believe it could be made available at a reasonable cost to consumers when it does eventually go on sale.

The Old DXer

Ron Richards WB1EAZ

The ARRL held the 2014 National Centennial Convention in Hartford Thursday July 17th through Saturday July 19th. Thursday was reserved for full day training sessions with Vendor exhibits and forms held on Friday and Saturday. I was very interested in attending the DX University held on Thursday and then decided to attend the exhibits and forums on Saturday. Following is a brief summary of the Convention:

DX University

The session started on a shaky note as the line for registration at the 8:30am start time still had hundreds in line to register. As a result the start time was pushed back to 9:30am and all went quite well from there. Professors for the DX University were W3UR, W1UE, K4SV, K9LA, N7NG and W3UR (all well known DXers). Special guest speaker was OH2BH with more than 50 years of running DXpeditions. About 160 DXers were in attendance with the majority of the crowd having worked less than 100 countries. During lunch attended by more than 900 hams, Rick, W5UR, First VP of ARRL, was the guest speaker. An inspiring speech was given inspiring all to work on mentoring and bringing new hams into the hobby. All the slide presentations can be found at www.dxuniversity.com. In general, this 8 hour session provided hints and tips to help the DXer work the rare ones. There were quite a few tips on developing a complete station, what antennas to use based on budget and size limitations, understanding propagation, obtaining the QSL card for that rare contact, and internet sources. OH2BH was quite interesting stating that he typically looked at the comments on cards received and looked for a personal touch other than “thanks for the new one” or “great job”. The takeaway message for all was get involved and reach out to those budding DXers in the clubs to help them learn the ropes. (Please contact me at Ronaldrichards@verizon.net if you would like any Elmering in DXing. I will be happy to share the things that I have learned over more than 30 years).

Saturday Convention

I wanted to see some of the new equipment and have a few eyeball QSOs so I hit the floor early in the morning and touched base with WA6NOA, V31MD (the owner of the ham shack that I used to operate from Belize), W2AZD (Don Search – was Mr. DX at ARRL until about 1997 and a friend), and many others. CQ magazine was there telling all that they hoped that their financial problems were behind them and that the July issue went into the mail last Friday. I note that we have been hearing much the same story for 2 plus years so I am not taking out a 3 year subscription! I found it interesting that AES did not have a presence but R&L Electronics had a presence that rivaled HRO (and they were a sponsor of the event and provided a \$5000 door prize). DX Engineering had a good size area with their state of the art low band systems. The Elecraft area had quite a few interested hams. They make probably the best for the money in my opinion. Gifts4Hams had some nice call sign gifts (I gave an engraved flashlight to my XYL and myself). Mayberry Service with their Honda generators had a very interesting display with a wide range of products. ELAD had a very interesting SDR booth that got me to spend a couple of dollars. There was also a relatively small flea market (compared to Boxboro). I did work in attending the forum by Bob Allphin (K4UEE). He gave a broad overview of recent DXpeditions that has been on (he is typically the CFO for these operations). The recent FT4ZM DXpedition was of most interest to all. He noted that Navassa is in the works and he is optimistic that it will happen. He also discussed the increasing cost of DXpeditions and means of financing. All in all it was a very enjoyable time.

Mini DXpedition to Belize

By Ron Richards WB1EAZ/V31RT

Having been active from the USA side of pileups, for a long time I wanted to operate from a “semi-rare” location. I had previously operated as EI4VKH from Ireland and /VE from Canada, but these operations only resulted in a few contacts due to lack of time and a credible station. My goal was to operate for about a week and make about 1500 contacts from a “semi-rare” location with a focus on Europe and Asia. Seeing various information relative to Belize and the availability of a ham shack, my XYL and I started planning a combination sightseeing and mini dxpedition to Belize. We found that V31MD’s shack in Placenta was available with adjoining housing. I also wanted to get a flavor of the fascinating country and made reservations to stay at a jungle lodge – Banana Bank for 4 days as I knew that after the XYL sat on the beach and saw the town of Placencia, we would be ready to stretch our legs. We quickly made the reservations and plane reservations. The year went by quickly and soon we were packing our bags in anticipation. I assembled all the equipment I wanted to take, Suddenly we were notified that V31MD had sold his property and the lodging was no longer available. Fortunately, the ham shack was still available (as I turned out, I was the last ham to use the station before it was dismantled). We made our reservations about ¼ mile away at Los Porticos Resort. The lodging was on the ocean and had a great beach. The downside was that I had to walk back and forth from the ham shack as there were no facilities available at the ham shack. Since the shack did not have air conditioning – just a fan, I also spent more time at our lodging than I would have if the shack had AC. But I admit I like creature comforts.

Since I was familiar with my ICOM 7000, I wanted to take that along with a power supply, LDG tuner and laptop. We quickly realized that we would have to check some of the bags if we were going to take the ham gear. So off we went to Boston Logan to fly to Atlanta and then to Belize. I wanted to take the ham gear as carry-on so I had packed all the equipment in one suitcase. However, this created the biggest issue of the trip, as security at the airport announced that they wanted to examine the equipment suitcase and run items through the x-ray separately. When security gave me back the case, I quickly closed it and hurried to catch the plane. It was not until the next day, when I opened the case that I found that the power supply for the computer, the tuner, and cables were all missing. Fortunately, V31MD’s shack was well equipped. It had antennas for bands 6-180 m, a Kenwood 830s, a tuner and other than having to do hand logging, the station worked well.

My goals on the mini dxpedition were to work 12 and 17 meters focusing on Europe, Asia and other areas outside North America. I had a goal of at least 1500 contacts in 5 days of operating that were mixed with sightseeing. The station worked very well with a cubical quad for 10-20 meters and a vertical for other bands. Since Belize was frequently on the air during contests and was a relatively easy shot for USA, my plan was to focus on 12m and 17m, working where possible openings outside USA. I know there has been much controversy recently over poor operating habits in pileups. Although this was certainly not a rare station, I worked simplex all the time, and by clearly identifying the station and not answering tail enders and those calling out of turn when I asked for specific areas, I was able to maintain a reasonable relaxed QSO rate. The biggest issue was having to walk back to the lodging for meals and bathroom facilities. This really broke up the day and eliminated using the shack when I had only a short time, but all in all, great fun with warm weather in March and some great beach days. We took one afternoon to go visit the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary up the road, which contained much wildlife, Victoria Peak (the second highest elevation in Belize), and about 100 jaguars. The wildlife and scenery that we saw was certainly exotic and fascinating. During the countryside drives, we saw many farms including banana (see picture) and mango.

Back to the ham shack-final results were 1525 QSOs in 5 days of operating. I was quite pleased to have reached my goal of 1500 QSOs. All QSOs were on SSB with about 875 on 17m (the real workhorse band for me), 500 on 12m, 100 on 10m, and about 50 on 40m. About 70 different countries were worked, including JA, VK, A4, many European and South American. About 30 Gs made it into the log. About 40% were outside of the US. Toward the end of the stay, I tried 40m in the evening/night but there was not much activity. When 17m was slow and there

wasn't much activity on 12m, I went to 10m, which provided a nice run of 100 stations. During one of the nice runs, I tried to get the XYL (licensed as V31BE) to get on the air but after putting on the headphones, she decided that the beach was her cup of tea – not a hot ham shack with dozens of hams all with the call signs. I had a couple of QSOs with N0AX-Ward Silver and with some old and new friends from New England. So with closing down the station on March 19th, having operated since March 14th, we bid goodbye to the ham shack and traveled to our lodge outside Belmopan (the Belize capital).

The lodge was located on the Belize River with hundreds of acres of horses and farming. The Jaguar (Tika II) and the aviary with macaws and other birds certainly caught our attention. The next day we relaxed and roamed the grounds. Then the following day we went with a guide to Caracol. Caracol is the largest ancient Mayan City in Belize. See the picture showing the 140 foot high temple. From what we learned, most of the City was built by slaves captured in battles with other tribes. We returned to the lodge and enjoyed the home cooked-foods with a Mayan flavor and the grounds.

Reluctantly, we headed for Ladyville and the Belize International Airport. Note that the airport is served by international flights from Houston, Miami, and Atlanta. All went according to plan until we were boarded on the plane when we were told they were waiting for sign-off on the maintenance log. This wait took more than an hour. Then when approaching Atlanta, we were put into a holding pattern and upon pulling up to the gate, we were told the Jetway was not operating. We had about 20 minutes to make our connecting flight so we rushed out, having to go pick up our luggage, go through customs, and drop the bags back off. We got to the gate for the Boston flight only to find that the flight had just left. So we were put up overnight in the local hotel (nice digs) and travelled home the next morning with little fanfare.

The postal service greeted us warmly when we got back saying in jest that my QSL cards may just save the USPS from its financial issues. My first order of business was to order QSL cards (see picture). I soon took the hand written log and started transcribing the QSOs to an electronic log. After about 3 weeks, I finished that task and uploaded to LOTW. All in all a very enjoyable trip with my goal of 1500 QSOs complete.

The following news is from K5FUV, Bill Kennamer. Feel free to pass this on to your DX friends and clubs.

“DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, was seriously injured in an automobile accident about two weeks ago. His neck was broken, leaving him paralyzed from his upper body down, with limited movement of his arms. Recovery will be difficult and slow, and is not expected to be total. Bill would like to hear from his friends. He is currently in the Mount Sinai Rehab Hospital in Hartford, but cards and well wishes should be sent to 92 Reservoir Rd, Newington, CT 06111”.

Friday K5FUV, Bill Kennamer, and I visited Bill at the rehab hospital. We spent a few minutes with NC1L, Bill, who was extremely glad to see us. I gave him one of the ARRL Centennial Convention coins and told him how successful the event was going. He was very happy to hear the news and the greetings from his friends. Bill's sister-in-law Gina was there in the hospital and asked us to tell Bill's friends that he would love to hear from them. So if possible let's all show Bill our love and concern for our dear friend by sending him our QSL with good wishes. I know Bill and the family would greatly appreciate your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Bill Moore
92 Reservoir Road
Newington, CT 06111

PHOTO'S FROM WRTH2014 ATTENDED BY JOHN-WA1JG, GARDI- KB1BTK AND RENEE- KC1BAK



Gardi volunteered with his daughter, Renee, and John- WA1JG to help with this event. I am sorry to say Gardi got sick at the event and was later hospitalized at the Addison Gilbert Hospital for heat related problems. Gardi has since been released and is gradually starting to feel himself again.

John- WA1JG purchased the tower, antenna, and Honda Generator from the event for an absolute bargain price and will soon (?) have it erected in his yard in Manchester, MA.



More photos from the WRTC 2014 event by Gardi- KB1BTK

USA TAKES THE GOLD AT WRTC2014 The 2014

World Radiosport Team Championship is over and the United States has brought home the gold. ARRL Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, K1ZZ who served as the events Chief Referee got to announce the winners: —

K1ZZ: “This was a team that was in first place after the first hour and never looked back. Not only did they have the highest multiplier, they had the highest QSO total (of) 4,572. They had the highest QSO points that means their contacts were worth more per contact because they made contacts outside North America. “But I know it is a tremendous pleasure for Doug, K1DG, who has been on that pedestal himself, now to present the Gold Medals for WRTC2014 to N6MJ and KL9A, the operators of K1A.”

— As Dave Sumner stated, the first place and the Gold Medal went to the team of Daniel Craig, N6MJ and Chris Hurlbut, KL9A. They operated with the call K1A and garnered the top spot with an overall score of up 7,184,844 points. Taking the Silver Medal was the Slovakia team of Rastislav Hrnko, OM3BH, and Jozef Lang, OM3GI. They were on the air as W1L and logged 6,816,144 points.

Rounding out the top three was the German team of Manfred Wolf, DJ5MW, and Stefan von Baltz, DL1IAO, who took home the Bronze Medal. This after having scored a total of 6,421,383 points operating as W1P. This year’s actual on-the-air competition took place the weekend of July 12th and the 13th from sites in and around the city of Westborough, Massachusetts. 59 teams from around the world took part.

HAM HAPPENINGS: FACEBOOK SAYS OK TO HAM CALLS AS ALTERNATE NAME

Officially licensed amateur radio operators may now use their call sign as their alternate name, or nickname, on their individual Facebook profiles. This thanks to Richard Bobbitt, NW7OR, who recently organized a petition drive on the social media site in the hope of achieving this goal. It turned out that Jeff Ferland, KB1PNB, who works at the Facebook Headquarters in Menlo Park, California found the petition on an amateur radio Facebook Group to which he belongs. After doing a bit of research Ferland wrote the necessary code, then got it reviewed and approved. To add your call Bobitt says to go to “Settings”, then click on “Edit Your Name.” In the middle of the page you will see the words “Alternate Name.” That’s where you can add your callsign. Bobbitt says that the petition was originally the idea of Richard Allcorn, KW7PTL, without whom, this may not have happened so easily and quickly. Over 1000 hams on Facebook signed the petition within the first week or so after it was posted on the various Facebook ham radio pages. (NW7OR)

FCC Alleges Deliberate Interference, Failure to Identify in Proposing Substantial Fines for Two Radio Amateurs

The FCC Enforcement Bureau came down hard on two radio amateurs this week, proposing substantial fines for alleged deliberate interference to other Amateur Radio communications — in one case by transmitting music and animal noises



It's called **reading**.
It's how people install new
software into their brains.

— and failure to properly identify. In similar *Notices of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NALs)* released July 22, the Commission proposed fining Michael Guernsey, KZ8O (ex-ND8V), of Parchment, Michigan, \$22,000, and Brian Crow, K3VR, of North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, \$11,500. In both cases, the FCC said the evidence indicated that the transmissions at issue were aimed at interfering with other radio amateurs with whom each “has had a long-standing and well-documented dispute” that had spilled out onto the air.

The FCC in both instances responded last March to “several complaints of intentional interference” on 14.313 MHz. Commission agents used radio direction-finding techniques to pin down the source of the transmissions. According to the **NAL issued to Guernsey**, the FCC agents monitored transmissions from his station for approximately 40 minutes

on March 7, 2014, “and heard him transmit a pre-recorded song and various animal noises on the frequency.”

According to the **NAL issued to Crow**, FCC agents monitored transmissions from his station for approximately 3 hours on the morning of March 14, 2014, and heard him transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) signals and “a pre-recorded voice transmission of another amateur station on the frequency.”

“These transmissions prevented other amateur licensees from communicating over the frequency,” the NALs said, adding that neither Guernsey or Crow transmitted their assigned call signs while the agents were listening.

The FCC agents later the same day visited Crow’s residence and asked to inspect his station, which they confirmed was capable of operating on 14.313 MHz. Crow denied

operating his station that morning, however, and claimed that he was not at home when the interfering transmissions occurred.

The Enforcement Bureau has warned both Guernsey and Crow in the past regarding interference to other Amateur Radio operators. In Crow's case, the FCC said the fact that he subsequently interfered with other amateur operators "demonstrates a deliberate disregard for the Commission's authority," and warranted an upward adjustment of \$3500 to his proposed base forfeiture. Guernsey first came to the Enforcement Bureau's attention in the late 1990s and, the FCC said in the *NAL*, "has a history of causing interference to the communications of other Amateur Radio operators and has been warned repeatedly in writing." Guernsey's lengthy history with the Commission warranted an upward adjustment of \$14,000 to his proposed base forfeiture.

The Commission gave both licensees 30 days to pay their fines or to file written statements "seeking reduction or cancellation of the proposed forfeiture."

The *NALs* to Guernsey and Crow came in the wake of a June 5 *Notice of Violation (NoV)* alleging that Thomas Ryan Price, W7WL, of Sweet Home, Oregon, caused malicious interference to other radio communications on 3908 kHz, transmitted music on the same frequency, and failed to properly identify. The FCC said issuance of the *NoV* "does not preclude the Enforcement Bureau from further action if warranted, including issuing a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture* for the violations cited."

FEMA and ARRL Sign Agreement; FEMA Administrator Calls Ham Radio "Resilient"

07/19/2014

The ARRL and the Federal Emergency Management Agency ([FEMA](#)) have announced a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will enhance cooperation between the League and FEMA in the area of disaster communication. FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, signed the agreement July 18 during the ARRL National Centennial Convention at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, Connecticut.

"Radio is one of the most resilient communications technologies we have," Fugate said. "When the power is out and telecommunications are down, the Amateur Radio community can serve as a vital resource in support of emergency responders and survivors during a disaster. This MOA will strengthen FEMA's partnership with ARRL and build upon our work to expand emergency communications capabilities and the use of Amateur Radio in emergency management." The new agreement will allow FEMA and ARRL to work together to provide resources, services and personnel, as available, in order to strengthen capacity in areas of emergency communications, mass care and emergency assistance, disaster preparedness, response and recovery, while also raising public awareness about the use of Amateur Radio as a public safety resource. The pact also outlines the ways in which FEMA and ARRL will cooperate to

carry out their respective responsibilities, with respect to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery operations in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

Craigie said that from radio's earliest days of experimentation to the present, ham radio volunteers have combined a passion for technology with a devotion to assisting agencies that respond to disasters. "This combination of inventiveness and service has saved lives for a century," she said. "We look forward to working with FEMA to further develop opportunities for trained, equipped and prepared amateur radio operators to serve the public interest whenever and wherever disasters affect our country and its communities."

Fugate echoed his afternoon remarks as the keynote speaker at the ARRL National Centennial Convention Banquet Friday evening. He said that before he even became FEMA administrator, it became clear to him that Amateur Radio could support ad hoc and innovative communication without relying on conventional telecommunication systems.

"The more sophisticated our systems become, the more fragile they become," he told the gathering of some 800 dinner guests. He again emphasized the need for resiliency in communication systems, and asked, "How many public safety networks can come close to ham radio's bandwidth?"

"The relevancy of ham radio only grows," asserted Fugate, who just upgraded to General class. "Amateur Radio is taking that hobby and turning it into saving lives."

After Fugate's talk, President C

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LARGEST COLLINS RADIO AM SHORTWAVE TRANSMITTER SAVED FROM EXTINCTION

The announced transfer of the Voice of America broadcasting station in Delano California to the General Services Administration for disposal had potentially sealed the fate of the last compete Collins Model 821A-1 250,000 watt High Frequency Autotune transmitters in the world. Meantime the Collins Collectors Association and the Antique Wireless Association had formalized an alliance named the Collins Radio Heritage Group. Hearing of the potential loss of the transmitter the latter working in cooperation with members of the Arthur A. Collins Legacy Association began campaigning to save some of the significant historical artifacts related to the Delano Voice of America transmitter site. In December of 2013 a proposal was submitted to the Voice of America and the Government Services Administration to recover, preserve and display the transmitter and the studio control console from the Delano site. This past May the proposal was approved and recovery began. The effort was recently completed with the transmitter, studio board and other associated remote gear being removed and shipped to the Antique Wireless Association Museum in Bloomfield New York where they will be displayed.

ARRL CENTENNIAL CONVENTION JULY 17-19 2014

by *Bill- WZ1L*

Since I was unable to attend the Dayton Hamvention, in May 2014, the ARRL's Centennial Convention was at the back of my mind.

Originally, I was going down on Saturday as I would not have to work the next day, however, retail store being retail store, I was scheduled on Saturday due to a person needing the day off worse than I did.

So....

Friday, July 18, 2014, I awakened at 4:45 AM and got dressed. Checked to see I had my IOOK hat and a few gizmos, i.e. Cellphone, my HEROPRO3 Camera, the applicable chargers, charger cords, batteries, and extra Scandisc minis in case there was a need.

Left the house at 5:00am. Stopped by Dunkin Donuts, which is a coffee, and pastry fare, and was on my way. The GPS said I was 133 miles away from my destination. So, entered Route 495 South and heading in a Southerly direction. Drive about 98 miles and found the Massachusetts Turnpike. Took the Turnpike about 3 exits and paid \$1.10 toll and Exited on Route 84.



Route 84 goes through Hartford for us New Englanders for our trips to New York Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, DC and points south.

I arrived at the Convention Center around 7:45am. I just followed the signs and found myself at Check-In. Paid my \$30.00 for a TWO DAY TICKET, (NO 1 DAY TICKETS WERE OFFERED).

So, I was Number 2 in the entry line. *:08:00AM, I was very happy to look up and see a gentleman coming my way, it was RON, W6KJ, and a few minutes his wife Jo Anne appeared. Ron is a friend who is one of the gang I talk to on Sunday Mornings from CAARA. He is the Sacramento Area Director in Northern California.



We chatted the time away and at 0900, the open hour arrived. We entered the convention site I went straight a head, and Ron went to the right to check in with the ARRL folks since he as "ON DUTY" at the contention.

There were numerous vendors along the way, and I saw the MFJ Booth. Lo and behold, the Man, Martin F. Jue, was in attendance, I got a chance to shake hands and chat a few minutes with him. I mentioned that I had seen his video interview with Tom, W5KUB, and that I was very happy to meet him. He was very secretive in his future projects, but told him I was always looking for a new toy. ;)

There were all kinds of vendors, e.g., Radios, Electronics, Special Operations et al. Here are a few pics.



The picture left is an Mobile Emergency Operations Trailer



Picture right is inside of the vehicle

Turning the corner, I came across the COLLINS RADIO VAN. I just had to venture in and talk with the guys. Yes, I am familiar with Collins, as I was assigned to an Oceanographic Unit with the Navy, 1977-1980, surveying the approaches of the Suez Canal. Well, the radios we used in the MARS Shack were Collins KWM-2's and KWM-2A's, and their 30L-1.

It is while stationed aboard OceanoUnit 5 that I got the bug to become a ham radio operator. The XO, Gary, KB7CK (now AL7CZ) gave me a Wayne Green tape which I copied, and an Ameco Book. Well, I got a Tune in the World when I got back to Norfolk, VA.

The Comms were great with a 2 35 feet whips co-phased. This would alleviate any loss of comms when the ship, which was surveying would turn and head back the other way.

Below left is a picture of the Collins Radio Van. This van toured the country I was told, however, I never saw it in either Dayton or Frost Fest in Richmond, VA

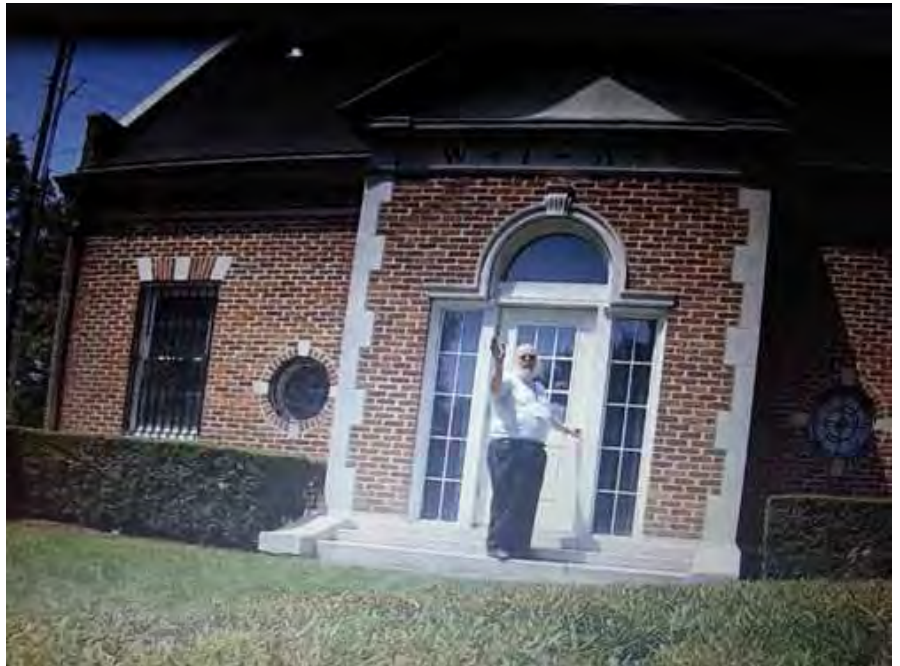
Below right is the interior of the Collins Van. Currently they have the S-Line Twins System installed. The components attached to the wall appear to be controls and a scope for signal strength and purity.



Well, Lunch time was upon us (11:00), and got a hamburger and Iced tea.

Since I was in limbo, I decided to take the tour of ARRL HQ and Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW station. I boarded a bus and 20 minutes later, I was there.

You exit by the League Headquarters and stroll across the grass. I have a picture from a video where I was attempting to enter the W1AW. When I arrived, I did a tour of the station which if memory serves me correct 6 operative stations plus the HP Maxim Spark Gap Station display.



An Operating Permit is required to operate W1AW, I failed to get one when I was in the building talking to the VEC representatives on duty. Therefore, I had to stroll back across the grass to get an operating permit. I was scheduled for 12:30 pm. 40 Meters was the band available, so, back across the grass.

I must admit, the ARRL has the latest and greatest of the ham gear. I used a Yaesu FT_DX-5000 and let me tell you, I was in heaven. Now the money is being saved for a Yaesu FT-DX 1200. The contact made was with a ham N3FAU, in Pottstown, Pennsylvania on 40 below 7.250.



I am sending a copy of the Operating Permit and ARRL Certificate as a memento of this great operating activity.

Got the bus back to the Convention. Since it was 1:45pm, I decided, Fridays are normally brutal in the Expressways North. I took me roughly 4 hours to get back home.

W1AW Guest Operator Card 

Day: Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su

Time: Circle One

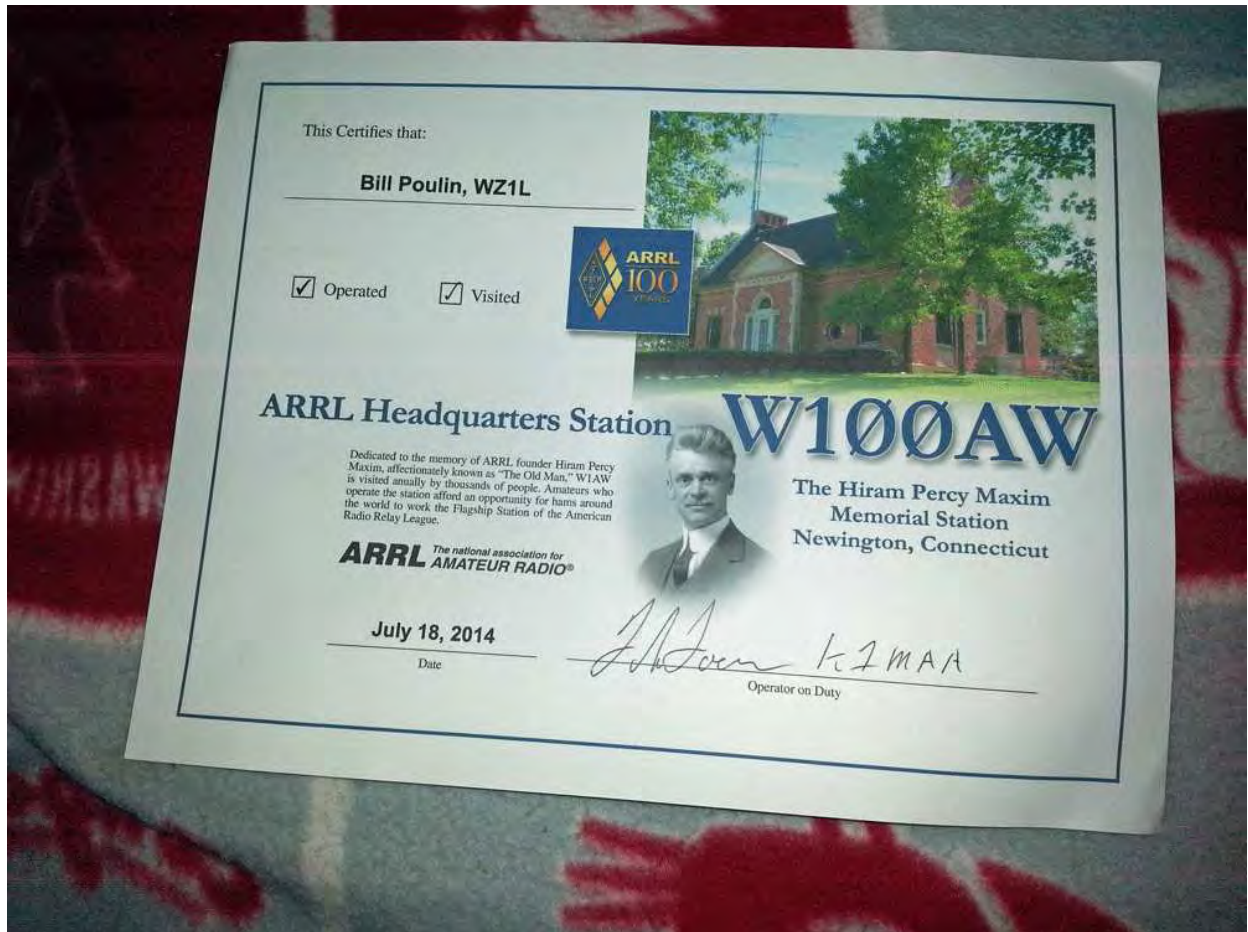
10:00	10:15	10:30	10:45	11:00	11:15	11:30	11:45	12:00	12:15			
12:30	12:45	1:00	1:15	1:30	1:45	2:00	2:15	2:30	2:45	3:00	3:15	3:30

Band: 80 40 30 20 17 15 12 10 2
247.500 W1AW

Call: WZ-11

By: PJ Mode: PHONE CW

Please present this card to the W1AW operator at your scheduled operating time and operate within the limits of your license class. N T G A E



2014 “Safety Day” photographs from the Town of Ipswich *photo’s courtesy of Alison Minter*



The Building Center of Gloucester
1 Harbor Loop
Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978-283-3060
Mon-Fri: 7am-5pm
Sat: 8am-4pm
Sun: Closed



The Building Center of Essex
140 Western Avenue
Essex, MA 01929
Phone: 978-768-7151
Mon-Fri: 7am-4:30pm
Sat: 8am-2pm
Sun: Closed