



CAARA Newsletter



CAPE ANN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2014 EDITION

President's Desk

by *Hank-W4RIG*



Hard to believe, but it's almost the Holiday Season once again. CAARA will have it's annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 6, 2014, from 5:00 until 9:00 PM at St. John's Episcopal Church, 48 Middle Street with parking lot entrance from Washington Street across from the new housing construction where Jim's Donut Shop used to be. We will have the usual drawings and door prizes as well as a Yankee Swap for those attending that want to participate. Limit your Yankee Swap gift to around \$10 and we will have a great time. Admission will be \$5.00 per person. We ask all who attend to bring food for the assembly. I'm asking Dean Burgess to coordinate the food since he is our resident expert with extensive experience from years past.

One of our generous members (yet to be identified) will bring a ham or other main dish. CAARA and the ARRL will supply the door prizes. Be sure to mark December 6 on your calendar - food and preparations from 5:00 PM until dinner at 6:00 PM.

Activities at 6 Stanwood this past month included a highly successful Tech-In-A-Day session where 5 new hams studied and passed the exam for the Technician Class License. Stan Stone did his usual great job as instructor and we had a fine group of Volunteer Examiners for grading the exams. Bob Quinn did his usual fine job of preparing the exam forms and getting the results sent to ARRL in Connecticut.

New window blinds have now been installed on both the first and second floor windows - thanks to Jon Cunningham, Roger Smith, Bill Poulin, Jake Hurd, Stan Stone, Ron Beckly and a few others for their help on that project.

Additional Kudos to Jon Cunningham and the rest of the Equipment Committee for posting and handling the equipment sales on eBay and PayPal.

We continue to thank those who have contributed radio equipment and other goodies for sale for the benefit of CAARA. Some of the funds will furnish a new 2 M repeater to replace our existing equipment on the tower at Blackburn Industrial Park.

Purchase of the Building is finally about to become a reality with assurances from our attorney Meredith Fine that things are moving (finally) smoothly through the process with the Gloucester City Council committees and City Attorney's office. We have a reasonable access license agreement with our neighbor and there will be no formal easement across the property at 6 Stanwood Street. As long as we continue our good job of providing emergency radio communications to Gloucester and Cape Ann, we will own the property, and can schedule building maintenance as needed. We also expect to maintain property insurance on the building in the event there is some damage to the structure in the future.

My best wishes for a Happy Holiday season. Hank W4RIG

Editor Roundup

by *Jon-KITP*



We are still having a good run on Ebay with the CAARA surplus equipment sales. We are approaching \$2000.00 in sales in the last 60 days and I have another \$600.00 plus of gear to still list.

The club hosted the "Tech in a Day" at the club on the first floor last weekend. This is a result of the extensive cleaning up and painting of the first floor so it is now a presentable space for holding classes, club meals, and entertainment events. I thank all that were involved and hope more members step forward and become involved this year in our ongoing projects.

We will be finishing up the work on the second floor, painting and reorganization, as well as helping to implement a new improved antenna farm to enable us to use the many stations we have available for our club members.



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



Fuel storage tips

Being on CAARA's Emergency communications team and operating HF portable and just wanting back up power in general for my home I own a Honda EU2000i generator. That also means that in order to keep it running I have an extra 5 gallons of gas on hand. Hey, if the powers out how many gas stations are going to be able to pump gas? I remember seeing the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy where the long lines of cars waiting hours to get gas at the only gas station that was open for miles due to the power outage. So if your into prepping it also is a good idea to keep 5 gallons of gas on hand just in case. So I purchased the 5 gallon jug and filled it up and brought it home and I'll store it in the garage. Now we all know that you can't store gas forever. The oxidation of petroleum hydrocarbons starts as little as 30 days after purchase. The consensus is that you can store gas up to 1 year if necessary with an aftermarket fuel stabilizer but I think 6 months is good to be on the safe side. If you don't end up using the treated stored gas after 6 months just pour it into the gas tank of you car and get some fresh gas and restart the process.

So you have your 5 gallons of gas so what would happen to your engine if you didn't treat your gas? There are 3 main events that occur. The first is the oxidation of the petroleum hydrocarbons in the gas. What happens is the gas will end up leaving a gummy and varnish like residue throughout your entire fuel system. This gum and varnish especially builds up in the carburetor and in the jets that reside inside it thus clogging the fuel jets which will not allow fuel to go through. If this happens your motor will run really rough and sputter if it even runs at all. Cleaning the jets by taking the carb out is an expensive job. The second thing that happens to fuel is that today's fuel consists of 10%

ethanol. What ethanol does over time is it draws water vapor out of the air and the water condenses in the fuel. What happens then is your motor might not fire due to a lower flashpoint and even if it does run you will also get a rough running engine. The water in the fuel also leads to our 3rd problem of corrosion within the entire fuel line. The water will corrode and rust out the metals and alloys in the fuel line and carb and the water will also rot and dry out the rubber seals and plastics in the fuel line components as well. Ethanol is now widely known to be one of the main causes of the rotting of plastic fuel tanks in the boating industry.

So I use Seafoam Motor Treatment additive as a preventative measure against the effects of oxidation, ethanol and corrosion. Seafoam is also a fuel stabilizer so you can use it to store your back up fuel supply for up to a year. Seafoam can also be added directly to any fuel tank to help clean carbs and fuel injectors and to keep your fuel line from freezing due to water build up in your fuel tanks. All you do is add one and a half ounces of Seafoam to each gallon of gas. A 16 ounce can of Seafoam costs around \$10.00 and I got mine at CAP Auto Sales. So please take the time to treat your fuel properly if you plan to keep fuel in your tank over 30 days. This will help you with the peace of mind knowing that your machines will start and run properly when you need them too. You can find out more about Seafoam at www.seafoamsales.com ;

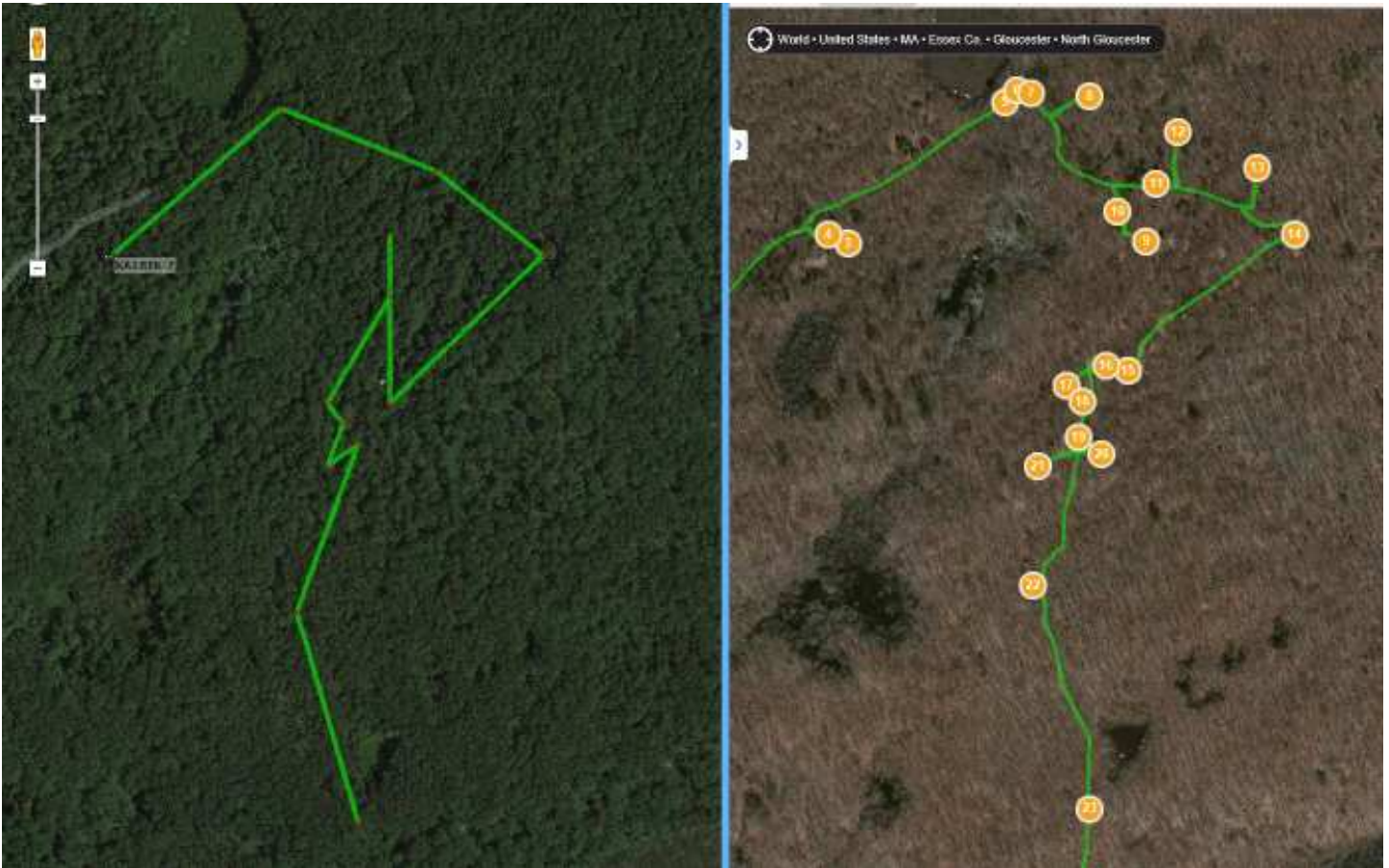


WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE CAARA EMCOM CENTER?

CAARA'S APRS SYSTEM IMPROVES!

A great tool is starting to come in to its own.

DOGTOWN, Mass. October 20th, 2014 – Derek Ketchopulos, KC1BUE and Gardi Winchester II, KA1BTK took a practice hike in advance of their Halloween Stroll along the Babson Boulder Trail through Dogtown. Along for the hike was Gardi's Yaesu VX-8DR with GPS and APRS. Although there's still a bit of a learning curve left with this HT, we were able to send a reasonable plot back to the APRS system via CAARA's APRS Digi-Peater. If we can "nail-down" this system, it will be a great tool for CAARA's EmComms events as we will be able to plot on a computer the location of the operators using it. Race administrators and emergency services will be able to see where things are happening at a glance without relying on an operator's guess-timate or version of local knowlage. You can follow an APRS plot at APRS.FI and search for a call-sign and designator like KA1BTK-7 (7 = HT). Many thanks to Stan Stone, W4HIX for all of the diligence and effort that he's put into this, and our many other systems!

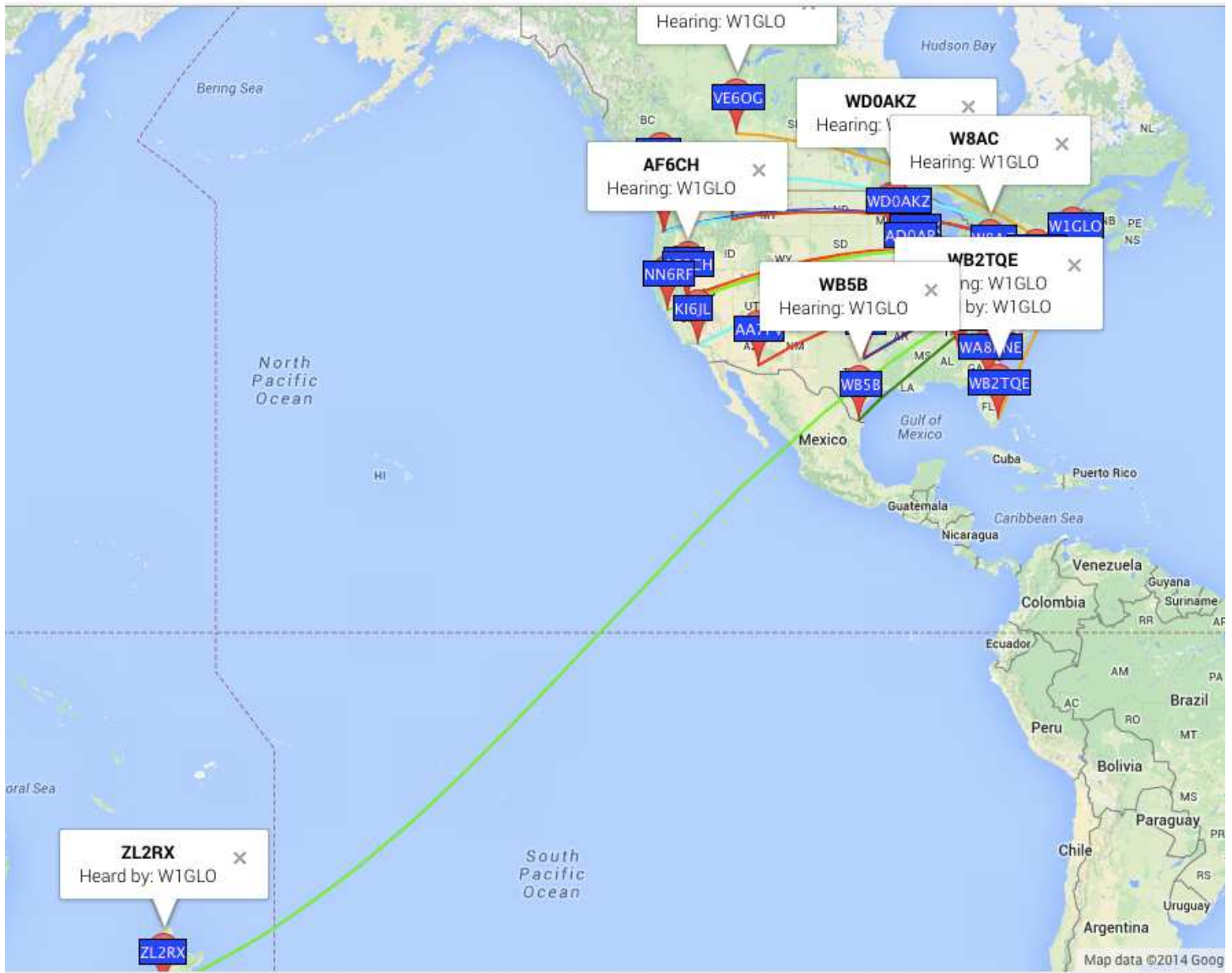


We're currently running WSPR at CAARA to measure propagation. Below are the results from the last 24 hours ending 10/23/2014 13:48 UTC (CAARA Station No. 4, Icom IC-7000, Signalink interface, tri-band beam, 20m band, TX @ 1W). We are working CONUS with 1W and received a signal from New Zealand (unknown power, but probably 1W, might be as high as 5W).

Stan
W4HIX



MAP ON THE NEXT PAGE



CAARA and IEMA are supporting the YuKanRun Stache Half Marathon & 1-Mile Race on November 2nd, 2014 in Ipswich as part of our EmComms practice. We need about 7 operators to staff check-points along the route. The 1-Mile event starts at 0900 and the 1/2-Marathon starts at 0930 from the Ipswich High-School. Please inform me if you can work this event. Requirements will be a mobile or HT 2-meter radio. We'll probably be using the Ipswich repeater at 145.490 (-, PL-131.8) and back up with 146.505 Simplex. Please let me know if you can help!

Gardner H. Winchester II-
KA1BTK

History This Week

- 1793 Eli Whitney applies for a patent on the cotton gin.
- 1815 Sir Humphrey Davy of London patents miner's safety lamp.
- 1884 Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) was adopted universally.
- 1888 First ballpoint pen patented by John Loud.
- 1922 The radio licence fee (initially ten shillings) was introduced in Britain.
- 1925 Water skis patented by Fred Waller.
- 1931 First commercially produced synthetic rubber manufactured.
- 1936 First high-definition TV broadcast service, by BBC in London.
- 1939 First jet plane, Heinkel He 178, demonstrated to German Air Ministry.
- 1945 The first ball point pen in the U.S. went on sale at Gimbels Department Stores for \$12.95.
- 1952 First hydrogen device exploded at Eniwetok Atoll in the Pacific.

CAARA XMAS PARTY DECEMBER 6

Emergency Generator

by Curtis-AA3JE

I grew up in the 1950s. It was a time that had many problems: the ever present threat of nuclear annihilation, the rough treatment of civil liberties, the evils of McCarthyism, but there was one shining triumph. The power rarely, if ever, went out.

Now don't get me wrong, the power did go out, from time to time, but it took a hurricane, major named storm, or meteor strike. Otherwise, you plugged the lamp into the wall, the lamp turned on, and all was serene.

As I write this, a minor Nor'easter is squatting off the coast this week. It's not much as these storms go, perhaps Sebastian Junger would write it up as the "Imperfect Storm" and three kids from the school would make a video of someone's dinghy filling with water. It does have winds of 30-40 miles an hour, and that was enough to take the power out.



Down here at South End, it doesn't take much to take the power out. We have had to put up a sign for the deer telling them (and Uncle Fred), not to pass gas in the wrong direction or the blast will rupture the Christmas tinsel holding the electrical lines up, and the power will go down (again).

And this is the point of this missive. If you are planning to put in an emergency generator, **PAY THE EXTRA MONEY** and get the one that switches on automatically when the power goes out.

I didn't. It seemed a clear and obvious decision at the time. A good, reliable, manual generator would cost at most \$4000, while a 10 KW, auto-start, automatic transfer switch unit, professionally installed, natural gas unit would be \$12,000. The extra \$8000 seemed a great deal to pay for freedom from the minor inconvenience of running down and kicking the thing into action once or twice a year. So I bought a really great Honda manual unit, poured a pad, built it a nice little house to keep the rain off, and figured I was all set.

Fast Forward Five Years.

(flicker, flicker)

“THE POWER IS GOING OUT. GET THE THING RUNNING.”

“They are just minor line transients, Dear. Nothing at all to worry about.”

(darkness falls.)

“THE LIGHTS ARE OUT.”

“Yes, Dear.”

“WELL, ARE YOU GOING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?”

“Yes, Dear. Have you seen the emergency flashlight recently?”

“YOUR GRANDSON WAS PLAYING PIRATE WITH IT LAST TIME I SAW IT.”

“The game where he practices luring ships onto the rocks with false signals?”

“YES, THE SWEET LITTLE THING.”

“Do you know where he might have been playing?”

“I HAVE NO IDEA. I CAN’T KEEP TRACK OF EVERYTHING.”

So, illuminated by the dim glow of a cell phone screen, I start an odyssey that is worthy of a Bronze age hero.

Normally, the upstairs hall is a broad highway, which I trip along without a care in the world. Tonight, it is a gauntlet-like rite of passage worthy of an Iroquois warriors. I have found it best to use a special kind of sliding gait, slipping my feet along the floor in a sweeping motion so as to detect and avoid: (1) cardboard box of things destined for the swap shop, (2) slow cooker hated by my wife on its way to the basement, (3) toy truck, yellow, one each, (grandson), (4) three colored pencils, suitable for use as ball bearings underfoot, (grand daughter), and (5) small pile of dog poo dropped by terrified terrier.

Having made it past the terrors of the upstairs hall, I face the stairs. Now every week, on cleanup day, I beg, plead and pray that the stairs be kept clear of foreign material, but they are just too handy a place to put things. So I hold the dim light close to the floor, and work my way slowly down past the pile of laundry (dirty: going down the stairs) and the other laundry (clean: going up), and the vacuum cleaner (cleaning in progress), and make it to the downstairs hall.

The downstairs hall is easy for one who had faced the terrors of the upper regions, but then it is the garage, and the horrors that await there. These are mostly trash barrels in route to the dump, but I am sure to stub my toe on some agricultural device of strange design. Then out the door, open the generator shed, and the moment of truth.

“Is there enough juice in the battery to turn the expletive thing over?”

One or two twists of the key, hearing the heart rending sound of a starter motor grinding slower and slower, and then a chuff, and another, and the damn thing starts!

You would think this was the end of my trials, but it is not so. Now that the generator is running, I have to travel the length of the basement to reach the transfer switch. You may wonder, as I do, why the transfer switch is not NEAR THE DAMN GENERATOR INSTEAD OF THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE HOUSE AWAY, but that is the difference between the \$4000 generator and the \$12,000 generator installation.

So it’s back up to the garage, and down the basement stairs, and across the length of the basement, (dangerous even with good light!) and then flicking the transfer switches.

The job is done, the freezers, the furnace and the emergency lighting are all on, and I return the conquering hero to SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED.

“WELL, ARE YOU JUST GOING TO SIT THERE WITH A SILLY GRIN ON YOUR FACE? CALL THE POWER COMPANY AND REPORT IT.”

Oh God. Facing the power company’s automated power outage reporting system. Sigh.

So do it. Spend the money. Learn from the mistakes of others. Automatic, natural gas, self-starting, just do it.

KB1PGH Portable HF operations

I had some time on my hands on Saturday Oct 25th so I took advantage of the crisp fall air and did some portable HF operations up at Stage Fort Park in Gloucester, Mass. I brought the Icom IC 7000, the Buddipole and the Honda 2000i generator and set up for 20 meter phone operations. The conditions on 20 were ok and then Al N1QEH contacted me on the 2 meter club repeater and told me the 10 meters was open as well. I then reconfigured the Buddipole for 10 meter phone operations and had great success there. The CQ WW SSB phone contest was going on this weekend so I took part in giving away points. I operated for 4 hours and made 26 contacts overall and it was good just to listen to the bands as well. With just 100 watts and the Buddipole dipole I was able to make contacts to Morocco, Italy, Puerto Rico, Switzerland, Barbados, England, Ireland, Bonaire, Russia, Spain and Panama just to name a few plus a half dozen USA stations. Most of these contacts were on 10 meters too! So this goes to prove that you can still participate in contests and work DX even if you don't have a 1500 watt amp and a huge beam 60 ft in the air! Working HF portable also allows those who live in HOA's and CCR's to get on the air and work the world and this is on SSB phone which isn't the most efficient mode of communicating compared to CW or PSK 31. For me working HF portable is the only way since my home is surrounded by EMI and RFI from local industry and large voltage power lines right next to my house. Operating portable in a heavily used park such as Stage Fort I was approached by several people asking what I was doing so it was great exposure of the ham radio hobby to the public. Even a Gloucester Police Officer stopped by and was curious to what I was up to. Working HF Portable at the top of the hill at Stage Fort Park also gave me some height for the Buddipole Antenna which looked out right over the open water. I used the hill to make nature's artificial tower for me! This outing also gave me the chance to keep practicing how to set up the Buddipole and to relearn how to use the menu system in the Icom 7000. The Honda 2000i generator with its perfect AC sine wave inverter gave off no RFI or EMI to either the Icom 7000 or the Buddipole antenna even though it was only a few feet away which is such a relief to hear no hash on the HF bands as other cheaper generators do. Well time is running out weather wise to operate HF portable so this may have been my last chance until spring, unless we get a really warm day during winter.



IEMA and CAARA Team-Up with JOTA Stations at Ipswich Chowder Fest

IPSWICH, Mass. Saturday, October 18th — CAARA members assisted the Ipswich Emergency Management Association, WIEM with setting up and running a Jamboree-on-the-Air operation at the Ipswich Chowder Fest at South Green. Ralph Milroy, KB1CMP, Dave Surronen, KB1KR, Gardi Winchester II, KA1BTK, and Bill Canty, W1OKD guided members of the Ipswich Boy Scout Troop 13 in making QSOs with other scouts throughout the United States and Canada. Gardi, KA1BTK set up on 20 meters with his Yaesu FT-450D on his home-brewed “Floundah-Rig” antenna. Ralph, KB1CMP ran his Yaesu FT-897D first on his Screwdriver on his truck parked nearby and later on a 17 meter Hamstick Dipole. Power was supplied by their respective generators. All equipment performed flawlessly throughout the event!

Kids who were used to communicating through cellular phones and the internet were refreshingly “wowed” by the technology of Amateur Radio and so obviously very excited about speaking with their counter-parts, hundreds of miles away, over the air. They spoke with other scouts about their grade levels and plans of moving up the scouting ladder, chasing after the grand level of Eagle Scout. They discussed camping, sports and other hobbies and shared a lot of information about scouting differences in distant parts of the world. On one QSO a Canadian scout informed us that his favorite

football team was the New England Patriots, at which a great cheer went up in our ranks!

As a testament to the health and strength of the world-wide Scouting organizations, there was a staggering amount of traffic on the bands for this event! Scouts from all over the world, vying to get on the air, made for a major “traffic-jam” situation! There were more stations and activity going on than I’ve ever heard before! Even though this made for a rough time nailing-down a clear frequency for a QSO, once a solid connection was made, it seemed that the average QSO lasted about 20 minutes or so! Scouts seem to be a yucky bunch! When we started trying CW, several scouts were so impressed it seemed that they could barely blink in-case they missed something! It was generally agreed that this was an amazingly successful and rewarding event for all!





**IEMA and
CAARA Team-Up
with JOTA
Stations at Ipswich
Chowder Fest**



High Sierra Screwdriver Antenna

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Sale \$15.73

19 Inches Tall so it is Tuned to 2 Meters
10db Gain over a Rubber Duck!!
Ready to Install in you 3/8-24 Threaded Mount
www.hamcq.com
High Sierra Communications Products

Chipmaker FTDI bricking counterfeit kit

USB-serial imitators whacked by driver update

Reports are emerging that chip-maker FTDI has declared war on chip counterfeiters with a driver update that bricks USB devices recognized as fakes. Hackaday reports that the issue has been noticed in various forums – EEVBlog and Arduino among them – and pins the issue down to drivers setting the USB product ID to 0 if a USB device contains a fake FTDI FT232 USB-to-serial bridge in it.

The driver was delivered as part of recent Windows updates, but once the product ID is zeroed, Windows, Linux and OS X will all fail to recognise the chip, Hackaday says. That report also points to this analysis of the manufacturer of the fakes at Russian blog Zeptobars. The engineer there conducted a tear-down right down to examining device layouts at the microscopic level, concluding that a probably-Chinese manufacturer is using a mask-programmable microcontroller to imitate the behaviour of the genuine FTDI device.

Last year FTDI weighed into the argument over USB in the open source world, when the USB Implementers Forum stated that even minor open source work with USB devices needed the \$US5,000 to buy a vendor ID and allocate PIDs. FTDI said it would share its VID and PID with customers doing small or prototype product runs. FTDI's config tool, here, will reprogram a target back to the correct PID, but the device will never be usable with Windows again



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO LONGTIME CAARA
MEMBER JOHN
GRAVES - WA1JG ON
HIS RECENT
MARRIAGE!**

ARRL November Sweepstakes: Another Chance at a “Clean Sweep” is Coming Up!

In a few short days, operators across all 83 ARRL and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) **sections** will take to the airwaves to compete in the first of two **ARRL November Sweepstakes** events. Always a fall favorite “Sweeps” is the longest-running “domestic” contest. The CW event is November 1-3, while the SSB event is November 15-17. The action on both weekends gets underway at 2100 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday (Sunday evening in continental US time zones).

As veteran Sweeps hands already know, the exchange for this operating event is a bit more involved than it is for most other contests. Strange terms such as “precedence” and “check” — while very familiar to old timers and traffic operators — may seem confusing at first to newcomers. The exchange goes like this: Call sign of the station worked, consecutive serial number (NR) starting with 001, precedence (PREC) — a letter that indicates your operating category; see the rules), your call sign, check (CK) — the last two numerals of the year you were first licensed, and the two- or three-letter abbreviation of your ARRL or RAC **section** (SEC).

In your log, for example, if WW1ME works W1MSW, the log entry might look like this:

W1MSW 015 A WW1ME 65 ME.

All popular logging programs include a template for ARRL November Sweepstakes. Be sure to use the latest version of your logger.

It may seem difficult and complicated at first, but once you get into the swing of Sweeps, it will start coming

naturally. That's also where it starts being fun.

The *2014 ARRL November Sweepstakes Operating Guide* contains a collection of Sweepstakes information and links to help both newbies and old timers to understand the rules, operating techniques, and log-submission guidelines.

The holy grail of Sweepstakes is to earn a "Clean Sweep" by working at least one station in all 83 sections. Attain this elite level and you qualify to purchase a highly desired Clean Sweep mug for your accomplishment! Also, the Sweepstakes certificate of every op making a Sweep will include a "Clean Sweep" sticker. Making at least 100 QSOs, qualifies the operator for a Participation Pin. Section and Division recognition awards for each operating category also are available. Details are on the ARRL November Sweepstakes web page. Be sure to read the **rules** for all ARRL contests too.

Logs are due 15 days after the event is over. CW Sweepstakes submissions must be received by 0300 UTC Tuesday, November 18, 2014. SSB logs are due by 0300 UTC on Tuesday, December 2, 2014. ARRL still accepts paper logs, but electronic Cabrillo logs submitted via e-mail (**CW**) (**SSB**) are preferable. Send paper logs to ARRL November Sweepstakes, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Those logging on paper also may want to consider WA7BNM's online Cabrillo **converter**, which lets the operator manually enter the logging data to create a Cabrillo file. Submitting logs electronically enhances the quality of the log-checking process and permits more rapid publication of results.

ICOM is the Principal Awards Sponsor for ARRL November Sweepstakes events. For more information about ARRL November Sweepstakes, **contact** ARRL Contest Branch Manager Matt Wilhelm, W1MSW.

KP1-5 Project Gets Permission to Activate Navassa Island (KP1) in January 2015

The KP1-5 Project has received word from the US Fish & Wildlife Service that it may activate Navassa Island (KP1) in January 2015. The DXpedition will be a maximum of 14 days, and exact dates will be determined by USFWS mission requirements and weather windows.

"Our experienced team of 15 is complete and is ready for the challenge," said an October 22 KP1-5 Project news release from President Bob Allphin, K4UEE, and Vice President Glenn Johnson, W0GJ. "The weeks ahead will be extremely busy as the team has less than 90 days before the DXpedition comes on the air."

The announcement explained that January is the month of minimum bird nesting activity and this is the primary reason USFWS is asking that the operation be completed during that month. Weather is unpredictable in January, however, and because Navassa is surrounded by cliffs, this may preclude a safe landing by boat.

"For safety reasons and in order to maximize our time on the island and on the air, a helicopter operation is planned," the team's news release said. "Navassa is over 100 miles (160 km) from the nearest helicopter staging point, and as many as 10 round trips will be required at the beginning and end of the operation. Obviously, this means that there will be a significant cost for activating this No 1 ranked DXCC entity."

The KP1-5 Project said it will be working with USFWS over the next few weeks, and, as details firm up, it will release additional details. The KP1-5 Project team has committed to fund 50 percent of the DXpedition's tab. "We are hopeful the DX community at large will fund the remainder," The announcement concluded.



CQ MAGAZINE REVISES POLICY ON CRIMEA IN CQ SPONSORED CONTESTS

CQ Magazine says that it has reconsidered an earlier decision regarding contact credit made with stations in the Crimea. This after receiving requests from contesters world-wide. On September 17th, CQ announced that logs will not be accepted for any CQ contest from stations in Crimea operating with Russian-issued call signs. Also, contacts made by others with those stations will be removed from contestants' logs without penalty and that no contact or multiplier credits will be given. This brought on some highly heated debate both on the air as well as in web-based discussion groups. Now, in its October 21st response to requests from a large number of contesters around the world, CQ has reconsidered its decision. As CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, explained, a large portion of the contesting community felt that CQ was unfairly denying our fellow amateurs in Crimea of the opportunity to fully participate in our contests. Ross went on to say that since the country list for CQ contests is based on a combination of the Worked All Europe and ARRL DXCC lists, and the ARRL has already adopted a policy regarding Crimean stations in its award and contest programs, CQ will amend its policy to be consistent with the ARRL's DXCC policy. With this latest decision the listings of Crimean stations submitting logs for CQ contests will be based on the call sign under which they have operated. If they used Russian-issued calls in the contest, they will be listed under Russia. If they used Ukrainian-issued calls in the contest, they will be listed under Ukraine. According to Ross, this change

reflects not only the desire of many contesters around the world, but also of a large majority of members of the CQ World Wide DX Contest Committee. (CQ)

COLLECTING COSMIC RAYS ON A SMARTPHONE

Scientists at two campuses of University of California are looking to get voluntary public support in their efforts to measure and track what they term as the unimaginable number of cosmic ray particles that bombard the Earth every second of the day. And all anyone needs to participate in this research is a smart-phone with a camera and the researchers' new Cosmic Rays Found in Smartphones or CRAYFIS app. According to a news release, the app works by recording and tracking every time one of these particles hits a smart-phone camera's sensor. This effectively turns the device into a pocket based detector, computer and data recorder. By creating the app and making it available to the general public, the scientists believe that they can remotely gather data and build a larger database than they could ever possibly compile on their own. Right now what's being called the CRAYFIS group is letting people sign up for beta versions of the app that's available for both Android and iOS platforms in an attempt to gather a sufficient number of volunteers. They say that the challenge is to create a willing user base within a dense enough area to gather all the required data. The complete proposal which includes graphical representations of the research is available at the Cornell University Library in several formats at www.arxiv.org/abs/1410.2895 (petapixel.com)

RUSSIAN SMART MINI-SATELLITES TO GO INTO ORBIT IN 2016

And finally this

week, the first group of Russian smart mini-satellites should be launched into orbit in 2016. Amateur Radio Newline's Heather Embee, KB3TZD tells us about these new and very intelligent mini birds: — A number of Russian universities and space industry companies are expected to create a specialized aerospace association. One which will work on creating software to control groups of mini-satellites and improve their ability to interact with one another. Mikhail Sonkin is the Deputy Governor of Russia's Tomsk Region. He announced that association members will include the Tomsk Polytechnic University and the Tomsk State University. Also, that in addition to the smart mini-satellites both will also be working on developing new materials for the space industry as well as on establishing communication networks in remote areas. Last month, Sergey Psakhie who is the Chairman of the Presidium of the Tomsk Scientific Center announced that Russian scientists were planning to create unique mini-satellites capable of group interaction. The satellites will be similar to the CubeSats that were developed in the United States, but would be able to self-educate and repair each other without leaving the Earth's orbit. This is quite a step forward in miniature satellite design.

Mirage, KLM Co-Founder Kenneth E. Holladay, K6HCP, SK The co-founder of **Mirage Communications** and KLM, Ken Holladay, K6HCP, of Gilroy, California, died October 14 after an extended illness. He was 75. Holladay and Everett Gracey, WA6CBA (SK) co-founded **Mirage Communications**, now a part of MFJ. He also was the "K" in KLM

Electronics, Inc, which he co-founded with Leeland “Mel” Farrer, K6KBE, and Mike Staal, K6MYC. A radio amateur from his high school days and an ARRL Life Member, Holladay was a California native and attended San Jose Junior College. He wrote several articles in the 1960s and 1970 for Ham Radio magazine and for QST. He and his wife Jacqui published Electro Buyers Guide. He was an active builder and experimenter on the VHF and UHF bands and was an early participant in EME activity on 50 MHz and 1296 MHz. Holladay also had a strong interest in restoring and racing Porsches, and he and his wife belonged to several orchid societies. In the 1990s Holladay co-founded the “Orchids in the Park” orchid sale held in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco each year.

RESCUE RADIO: VA PLANS FOR ALE BASED HF RADIO NETWORK The Department of Veterans Affairs is looking to establish its own High Frequency radio network to link up medical facilities in case of an emergency that damages or destroys other normal lines of communications. NextGov.com has reported on a plan by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Strategic Acquisition Center to award a five year firm fixed price Indefinite Delivery and Indefinite Quantity contract for the creation of a new high frequency radio network for its exclusive use. The contract will include equipment, installation, testing, certification, warranty and training to guarantee that the network will be a fully functional turnkey and resilient emergency communications system. As outlined, this HF Network shall be made up of a yet to be determined number of 400 watt backbone stations. These will work

January 1 Straight Key Night 4-5 RTTY Roundup 5 Kids Day 18-20 January VHF	February 10-14 School Club Roundup 15-16 International DX – CW
March 1-2 International DX– Phone	April 20 Rookie Roundup – Phone
June 14-16 June VHF 21 Kids Day (not 15 June!) 28-29 Field Day	July 12-13 IARU HF World Championship
August 2-3 August UHF 16-17 10 GHz & Up – Round 1 17 Rookie Roundup – RTTY	September 13-15 September VHF 20-21 10 GHz & Up– Round 2
October 11-12 EME - 2.3 GHz & Up 20-24 School Club Roundup	November 1-3 Nov. Sweepstakes – CW 8-9 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz 15-17 Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone

in tandem to receive and automatically relay communications 125 watt fixed and mobile stations located at approximately 200 Veterans Health Administration facilities. This High Frequency Network would operate somewhere in the 3 to 30 MHz spectrum though no exact frequencies have been mentioned. As outlined it would provide emergency two-way radio communication, along with an interconnect to the existing public switched telephone network as well as cellular and Internet Protocol telephone networks. This would allow for radio-to-telephone communication and Automatic Link Establishment better known in ham radio circles as ALE. The Veterans Administration plans to issue a formal request for proposals by October 31st.

FCC ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT WITH INDUSTRY CANADA FOR CROSS-BORDER PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS A new pack will permit cross border hand-held radio communications between the United States and

Canada between those involved in public safety issues in both nations. FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler and Industry Canada Senior Assistant Deputy Minister Kelly Gillis have signed an agreement allowing public safety officials who cross the U.S.-Canada border to use their hand-held radios in either country. The agreement called a Statement of Intent between the FCC and Industry Canada expands roaming privileges originally granted to public safety officials in a 1952 Treaty. The big difference is that the new Statement of Intent allows public safety officials to operate hand-held radios in the other country whereas the 1952 agreement only contemplated the cross-border operation of radios installed in public safety vehicles. The Statement of Intent also eliminates the need for the host country to issue permits to public safety officials crossing the border provided the radios used by such officials are licensed in their country of origin. (FCC) **

ENFORCEMENT: FCC AFFIRMS \$24000 FINE FOR INTERFERING WITH

SHOPPING CENTER RADIO SYSTEM

The FCC has denied a Petition for Reconsideration filed by Kevin W. Bondy and at the same time has affirmed a forfeiture of \$24,000 against him. This, for engaging in unlicensed operation, intentionally interfering with licensed radio operations, and refusing to allow an FCC inspection of his radio equipment. Back in 2009 the FCC received a complaint about interference to the operations and security frequency for a shopping center in Thousand Oaks, California. The security manager told the Enforcement Bureau someone was interfering with the center's 461.375 MHz and 466.375 MHz frequencies after which the FCC traced the interference to Bondy. According to the FCC, Bondy admitted he was trying to force the shopping center off its frequencies by transmitting NOAA Weather Radio on their radio channels. The agency said Bondy also refused to allow an inspection of his transmitting equipment and eventually issued the \$24,000 Notice of Apparent Liability to him. Bondy did file an appeal but on October 14th the FCC ruled that it was procedurally defective because it was filed to late. It then upheld and affirmed the fine and gave Bondy fifteen calendar days to pay the amount in full or to contact the agency to arrange a time payment schedule. (FCC) **



"Here's a message from Milwaukee"

This thoughtful wife knows that the moment her husband tunes in on Schlitz the reception is good. For Schlitz has a very special taste that beer-lovers are changing to with ultra high frequency. Taste Schlitz, yourself. You'll soon know why—

Schlitz tastes so good to so many people,
it's first in sales in the U.S.A.

READ HEADLINE: "The Rule of Ice", with The Radio Column, Wednesday, 8:35.
TELEVISION: Schlitz Professor of Stars", Friday, 8:30-9:00.



© 1952, J.S. SCHLITZ BREWING CO., MILWAUKEE, WIS.

The Beer that made Milwaukee Famous

Photos: I found these old advertisements for ham gear and they made me chuckle!

Low Cost 5-Band SSB-CW Transceiver



\$240.00

*The Heathkit NW-100 Five-Band SSB-CW Transceiver
... with all the features and performance
of competitive brands ... at a money-saving kit price.*



When the talk turns to Radio —

it will be found that those getting the best reception are utilizing Radiotrons Valves in their receivers.



RADIOTRONS

THE WORLD'S STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE!

For over ten years they have been recognized throughout the world as the standard valves of the entire Radio Industry.

For long life, consistent performance, distance and durability, Radiotrons are unequalled.

Take home a set of Radiotrons to-night, and mark the difference in reception.

Obtainable at all Radio Dealers

AMALGAMATED WIRELESS (A/W) LTD

It needs a push

A developed country like the United States with its advanced communication system has 7.5 lakh Ham or amateur radio operators and adds one lakh every year. India with one billion plus population has only 20,000 operators. With cell phone communications badly down after cyclone Hudhud and officials struggling to contact one another, a Ham radio set every five sq km would have been enough to cover Visakhapatnam, says founder and Chief Advisor of Hyderabad-based National Institute of Amateur Radio in India S. Suri (VU2MY). Now 75, he acquired his licence as Ham operator way back in 1964 when he was working in HAL. He had installed the set for former Andhra Pradesh Minister Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao after the devastating Diviseema tidal wave in 1977.

Mr. Suri was closely associated with former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who himself was a Ham radio operator. With his mother and the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi showing keen interest, a communication exhibition was organised at Teen Murti Bhavan. "Later Ham operators played a key role in the 1982 Delhi Asiad and the CHOGM hosted by India in Goa in 1983," recalled Mr. Suri. But the number of Ham operators that was 2,000 in 1983 has gone up only to 20,000 by now.

An imported Ham radio set costs Rs.1 lakh but it can be assembled at much less cost and can provide employment and communication at the crucial juncture like Hudhud, says Mr. Suri. With 20 per cent of the cost on advanced

communication systems with high maintenance cost Ham radio sets can be operated.

Life member of NIAR, Kolkata, Arya Ghosh, suggests a VHF repeater station atop Kailasagiri for establishing a strong emergency communication network.

HAM operator Yamini (VU2YAM), who took to amateur radio quite early, says one has to pass an examination and has to wait for clearance from seven departments including the Police and Intelligence Bureau. On the other hand SIM cards of cell phones are easily available to anyone, she points out.

In the US and Europe, Ham radio is taken as a hobby and licence is given liberally even to young boys.

For Ham Radio Geeks, Contact With Space Station Is Exciting by *Jim Clash-Forbes Magazine*

At the height of the Cold War when I was 13 years old, I got my amateur (ham) radio novice license. From the confines of a cramped closet in my bedroom, my "ham shack," I talked via Morse code night and day with other operators – first stateside then, as I upgraded equipment and license class, in countries across the ponds.

When I started reaching hams in the former Soviet Union, my parents took notice – not in a bad way, more in a curious one. The town in which I was raised, Laurel, MD, is just a few miles from the headquarters of the National Security Agency in Fort Meade. Many of my parents' friends worked at NSA, and there was always chatter at parties about that Clash boy and his radio.

One evening I might be chatting with Moscow, other nights further east

into Siberia: Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk – even Chelyabinsk, where that giant meteorite fell last year. I contacted other cool places, too – in Africa, South America, Australia – but because of the Cold War the Soviet hams, while not particularly chatty, were mysterious and enticing. Aboard Shuttle Columbia in 1983, where Owen Garriott (lower left, ear phones) made the first ham radio contact from space. (Photo courtesy of NASA)

I even kept a Rand McNally world atlas marked with conquest cities, along with the "QSL" cards we exchanged following our chats. After a few years I had accumulated more than 100 different countries on all continents, enough for my DXCC – DX Century Club certificate. It was a great hobby, and I learned a lot about science, geography and politics.

But as I grew older, girls and the psychedelic sounds of Cream and Jefferson Airplane inevitably replaced the echoes of Morse code beeps, and my radio – an old Swan 350 transceiver – increasingly sat silent. When I moved to New York for graduate school at Columbia, other than renewing my FCC license every few years (call: WA3JID) I all but gave up the boyhood avocation. Later, though, as an adventure journalist, I got to visit some of the exotic places I had contacted and fantasized about – the Seychelles Islands, the Amundsen-Scott Station at the geographic South Pole – even spiritual Tuva in central [Asia](#), famous for Nobel Prize-winning physicist Richard Feynman, throat singers and rare triangle-shaped postage stamps. The trips all reminded me fondly of my boyhood hobby.

Then after America had been to the moon and Cold War tensions had

eased, ham radio contacts with civilians became possible from space! The first were from astronaut Owen Garriott (W5LFL) aboard Shuttle Columbia STS-9 in 1983. Garriott chatted with a few dozen lucky mortals on the ground, including Jordan's King Hussein and Senator Barry Goldwater, both avid ham operators.

Last year by chance, I had the opportunity to interview none other than Garriott. His 1983 maverick radio contacts came up, of course, and I was fascinated. "When I finally got the equipment set up, we were roughly over Alaska coming down to the continental U.S.," he explained. "I called 'CQ', which means if anyone can hear please respond. A fellow named Lance Collister in Montana came back. There were so many people calling me at once!" After the Garriott interview, I got a far-fetched idea. While my own equipment long since had deteriorated, an organization I belong to – The Explorers Club – has a ham station (K2XP) on the top floor of its quaint headquarters in Manhattan. Maybe, at some point, it could serve as a place to conduct a chat with ISS?

As I was planning Space Stories earlier this year, an all-day Club event Oct. 25, I thought such a contact might add to the day's festivities. I also knew that Jim Enterline, the station manager, had been trying to get the Club's radio involved in more educational activities. In passing, I mentioned the ISS idea to him.

Next thing I knew Enterline, through a patch system called ARISS, had started the process rolling. This month, the Club received official approval from NASA for an ISS contact, and 16 questions for the Shuttle astronauts have been submitted from students as far away

as Tokyo, from local space buffs – even one from Charles Duke, an Apollo 16 moonwalker.

The kicker: Richard Garriott (W5KWQ), son of Owen and a ham who also has had contacts with Earth from space, coincidentally will be presenting at Space Stories. In 2008, he flew to ISS aboard a Soyuz rocket as a paying passenger. (Oh the ironies! But that's another story.)

"The most amazing thing," the younger Garriott told me, "is that I'd be over the South Pacific at 3 a.m., no land masses in sight, and when I clicked the radio several operators were waiting. Everybody follows the track of ISS. I was shocked by how passionate the ham community is." We hear you Richard, and we hope ISS can hear us later this month. Like you, I'm one of those passionate hams, albeit re-energized, and I can't wait to be part of the exciting Club contact. It truly will be an out-of-this-world experience!

AirSpy taking pre-orders for their \$199 SDR receiver. Airspy is an advanced software defined radio receiver capable of sampling 10MHz of spectrum anywhere between 24MHz and 1.7GHz – and even beyond with extensions. It all started when we needed a good performing receiver that's still affordable but could not find a good solution in the market, so we designed ours. We believe that as of today, Airspy is the only serious wide band receiver solution that's high performance and yet affordable.

Some specs:

- Continuous **24 – 1750 MHz** RX range with **no gaps**
- **3.5 dB NF** between 42 and 1002 MHz

- Tracking RF filters
- **35dBm IIP3** RF front end
- 12bit ADC @ 20 MSPS (**80dB Dynamic Range**, 64dB SNR, 10.4 ENOB) – Yeah, size does matter.
- Up to **80 MSPS** for custom applications
- Cortex M4F @ up to 204MHz with Multi Core support (dual M0)
- **1.5 ppm** high precision, low phase noise clock
- 1 RTC clock (for packet time-stamping)
- External clock input (10 MHz to 100 MHz via MCX connector) – Ideal for phase coherent radios
- **10 MHz panoramic spectrum** view with 9MHz alias/image free
- IQ or Real, 16bit fixed or 32bit float output streams
- **No IQ imbalance, DC offset or 1/F noise** at the center of the spectrum that plagues all the other SDRs
- Extension ports: 16 x SGPIO
- 1 x RF Input (SMA)
- 1 x RF Output (Loopthrough, U-FL)
- 2 x High Speed ADC inputs (up to 80 MSPS, U-FL)
- 4.5v software switched Bias-Tee to power LNA's and up/down-converters





BRIGHTON, MASS, October 25th 3014 — Carol Winchester, KC1BUA and Gardi Winchester II, KA1BTK attended the the ARES meeting at the Josephine A. Fiorentino Community Center in Brighton, hosted by the Metro-Boston ARES District Emergency Coordinator Marek Kozubal, KB1NCG. Also in attendance was Michael Neilsen, W1MPN the Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator was was glad to see the North Shore District and CAARA represented at the meeting! Topics discussed at the meeting were an interest in expanding the EmComms capabilities throughout the region through educational opportunities for ARES and SkyWarn. There seems to be much interest in digital modes for future reporting. Merek led us through an overview of SkyWarn and W1BOX including a very well put together video of storm reporting events from local Amareur Radio operators in past weather situations. I learned that news of our club’s actions is far-reaching and ARES administrators have much hope that CAARA’s resources will eventually be able to help fill a considerable gap in the section, especially along the North Shore. Time to take it to the next level?

Note: Many of the EmComms courses require prior passing of the ICS 100b and 700a, available through theFEMA website. Obtaining these courses from other entities may not be accreditable.

CAPE COD HAM RADIO SAFARI

October 25th-26th – Carol and Gardi Winchester II, KC1BUA and KA1BTK took a ride to the outer cape over the weekend. We arrived at Marconi Station Road parking area about 4:30 PM but we still managed to set up our HF station and operate from the site where Guglielmo Marconi made the world’s first wireless transatlantic communication on January 18th, 1903. Sadly, we had tuned everything up to work on 20 meters but found the bands so overly crowded with a contest that we could not make any contacts lime-lighting our location. We tried 17 meterswithout re-trimming the antenna as it was



getting late, and made one contact, but that was so poor that we did not even put it into the log. Later we broke everything down and went to a favorite camping site in Wellfleet for a very comfortable night in the White Beast.

The next day we wandered up to P-Town via Highland Light at which point we did not hit the CAARA .13 repeater but was able to make it at water-level from Race Point, and again at the Provence Lands Visitor Center. We also had a conversation on it from the Pilgrim Monument & Provincetown Museum parking lot. We worked the Truro 2 meter .255 repeater but found no one on the other end as we meandered back along Rt. 6A back home. If good weather holds, we may make one more trip that way to visit the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center and the New England Wireless and Steam Museum, neither of which we had time for on this trip.





Marconi Wireless Station

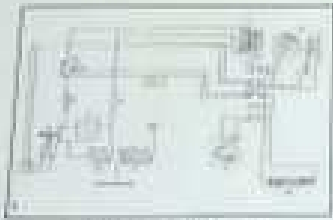
The Marconi Wireless Station is a National Historic Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Marconi and the Great Marconi Station
National Historic Landmark
1986

How stood one of the world's great systems radio stations. Marconi's first Wireless Station, or "WLS," (distinctively, the factory station was dismantled and abandoned in 1912, and the tower has needed many more half the total it occupied.

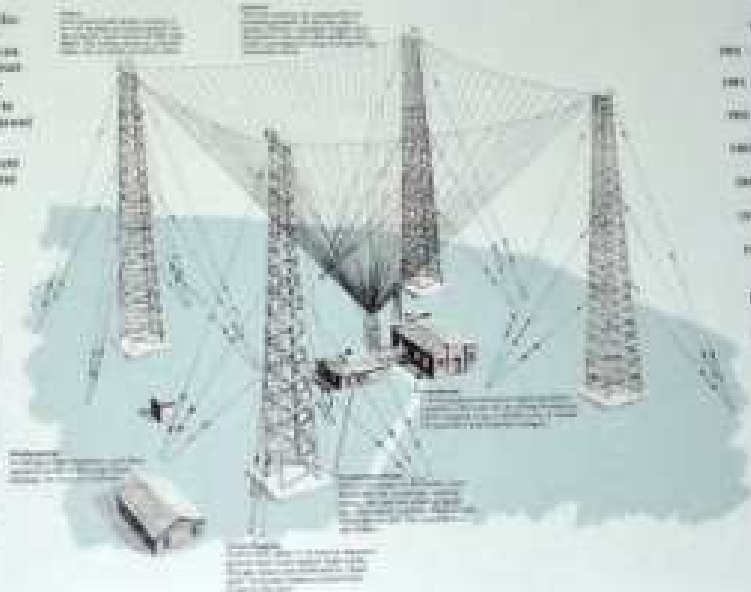
A few stations are still visible, including concrete foundations of the towers, brick and masonry tower, and steel structures that held guy wires.

The tower remained behind you depicts the station as it appeared in 1912 when it transmitted its first commercial message.



Technical station diagram

- 1. Tower
- 2. Guy wires
- 3. Foundation
- 4. Tower
- 5. Guy wires
- 6. Foundation
- 7. Tower
- 8. Guy wires
- 9. Foundation
- 10. Tower
- 11. Guy wires
- 12. Foundation



- 1911 - Marconi Wireless Station and Guy Wires constructed at the station.
- 1912 - In December a storm struck the station.
- 1913 - Tower rebuilt with concrete foundations for heavy weather.
- 1914 - First transatlantic wireless message sent between the United States and England.
- 1915 - Marconi Wireless Station first wireless message transmitted to station.
- 1917 - Station operated from a distance of over 100 miles from New York.
- 1918 - Station is part of commercial network, World War I communication from the station for warships, military bases.
- 1920 - Equipment changed, tower dismantled and building abandoned in the sea.
- 1986 - Site proposed for National Park Service as part of Cape Cod National Seashore.



DON'T FORGET TO PUT THE CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY ON YOUR CALENDAR!

WO 70 CM EXPERIMENTAL SATELLITES LOST IN ANTARES LAUNCH EXPLOSION

Two experimental payloads designed to operate in the 70 centimeter amateur satellite band have been lost. This, after an Orbital Sciences Antares 130 launch vehicle on a re-supply mission to the International Space Station was destroyed only a few seconds after it had cleared the launch tower. The October 28th launch from NASA's Wallops Island Virginia facility at first appeared to be going smoothly. But at about 8 seconds after liftoff the Antares booster exploded in a hail of flames and fell back toward its launch pad. While there were no full or half duplex ham radio communications satellites on-board, two of the microsats being carried to the International Space Station for later deployment were designed to operate as data and beacon downlinks in the 70 centimeter amateur satellite band. One was the GOMX-2 which was a developmental concept microsat for aircraft location. It was to transmit data on 437.250 MHz. The other was to be the Radiometer Atmospheric Cubesat Experiment known by the acronym RACE. It was co-developed by a student team at the Texas Spacecraft Laboratory at the University of Texas in Austin in cooperation with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. This was to be a technology microsat designed to transmit GMSK coding at 38.4 kilobytes per second and CW telemetry on a downlink frequency of 437.525 MHz. The primary cargo on the Antares was food and other supplies to restock the ISS day to day crew needs along with some restricted payload not identified by

NASA or the launch provider. Yet another part of the cargo was material for scientific projects that included a Houston school's experiment on pea growth, a study on blood flow in space. News reports say that NASA officials have already apologized to those students who lost their experiments. In all, nearly 1,600 pounds of science and research materials were lost in the launch mishap.

INDONESIA HAMS MAY BE CALLED ON IF EBOLA HITS THAT NATION

Ham radio operators in Indonesia could become part of a response team if the Ebola virus were to hit that nation. This as researchers from a study program of the University of Gadjah Mada School of Engineering introduce guidelines for anticipating and preventing the spread of the deadly disease in that nation. According to a professor of physics engineering at the college, Indonesia lacks both the knowledge and the adequate health equipment needed to detect Ebola early. Using a simulation created for such an event and in cooperation with the Yogyakarta branch of the Indonesian Amateur Radio Organization and the Indonesian Red Cross the three will work together to formulate a standard operating procedure for tackling Ebola infections. This will be submitted to the governor for his consideration. According to the Jakarta Post, it is hoped that the proposal could provide basic guidelines for an Ebola mitigation procedure on the national level. The complete story can be found at tinyurl.com/hams-vs-ebola-part-1 (Jakarta Post)

VIETNAM BY KM00 NOV 25 TO DEC 24

In DX up front, word that KM00 will be operational as 3W3O from Vietnam between November 25th and December 24th. His main activity will be the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest on November 29th and 30th but expect him to be on 160 and 80 meters before and after the contest. QSL to KM00 direct, via the bureau or electronically using Logbook of the World. (OPDX) **

DX UP FRONT: TENERIFE FROM DECEMBER 9 TO JANUARY 8 Also, IK1PMR and PA3LEO will be on the air signing portable EA8 from Tenerife Island between December 9th of this year and January 8th of 2015. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via HB9FKK or each operators home callsign direct or via the bureau. Electronic QSL's go via Logbook of the World

MORE X-CLASS FLARES FROM SUNSPOT AR2192

Space Weather reports that giant sunspot AR2192 we reported on last week erupted again at 21:40 UTC on October 24th producing a powerful X3-class solar flare. A pulse of extreme Ultra Violet radiation from the flare ionized the upper layers of Earth's atmosphere, causing a brief but strong blackout of High Frequency radio communications over the dayside of Earth. This was followed by an X1 class flare on Saturday October 25th at 1709 UTC that had a similar effect. Coronagraphic data from NASA's Solar and Heliospheric Observatory suggest that the explosions did not hurl a significant Coronal Mass Ejection toward our home planet. Also of interest is that so far none of the X-flares from this active region has so far produced a major C-M-E.

Sunspot AR2192 is now approaching the Sun's western limb and by the time many of you hear this it will be gone for its two-week transit on our home star's far side. However, the odds of an Earth-directed radiation storm will remain high for a while. This is because the western limb of the sun is well-connected to Earth and solar magnetic fields springing out of that region spiral back to our planet. If a sunspot passing through the area explodes, those magnetic fields can funnel energetic particles in our direction. (Spaceweather, Southgate) **

RADIO LAW: IARU SEEKS TO REIN IN ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCE

The International Amateur Radio Union Administrative Council has called upon all International Telecommunications Union signatory nations to take steps to ensure that the operation of electrical apparatus or installations of any kind does not cause harmful interference to amateur radio operations. The council said new technologies such as wireless power transfer are likely to be deployed widely in the near future. As such, it expressed a deep concern that present standards, regulations, and enforcement resources are inadequate to protect radio services, including amateur radio, from harmful interference. (WIA News) **

RESCUE RADIO: FALSE FEMA ALERT MESSAGE ON ATT U-VERSE ON OCT 24

AT&T has confirmed that it accidentally relayed an incorrect emergency alert message from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to its U-verse customers in

parts of Georgia, Texas, Tennessee, Michigan and Mississippi. The alert messages began popping up on screens around 10 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on October 24th. Red banners appeared the television screens of viewers in the affected areas alerting them to stand by for an important message. Soon after the incident FEMA spokesperson Rafael Lemaitre stated that there had been an inappropriate playing of the national emergency alert notification tones on a syndicated radio broadcast. He went on to state that there is not a national emergency but that the broadcast triggered alert notification in states where it had been played. Lemaitre said his agency was working with the FCC to quantify the scale of the incident. (TechTimes)

W9L CELEBRATING VETERANS DAY NOVEMBER 11

Members of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club will operate station W9L on November 11th which is Veterans Day 2014. W9L will be on the air from 1400 to 2100 UTC from the clubs national headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. The High Frequency operation will take place on 14.275 MHz. There will also be local participation on 146.46 MHz simplex, the Hamilton County 145.17 MHz repeater and an interconnection via IRLP node 4816. Hams who make contact with W9L or shortwave listeners who hear the station are eligible to receive a full color commemorative certificate. More about this operation including QSL routing is at www.legion.org/hamradio (KJ9M) **

HAM HAPPENINGS: KC9HYY/WSL3 COMMEMORATES SINKING OF HMHS BRITANNIC
Special event station KC9HYY stroke WSL3 which will operational in remembrance of the 98th anniversary of the sinking of the HMHS Britannic. The Britannic was the third and largest Olympic-class ocean liners of the White Star Line. She was launched just before the start of the World War One and soon converted to use as a hospital ship. On the morning of November 21st 1916, the Britannic was shaken by an explosion from an underwater mine in the Kea Channel and sank 55 minutes later. There were 1,066 people on board of which 1,036 survived. Now, in remembrance of this event, callsign KC9HYY stroke WSL3 will be taking to the ham radio bands from November 21st to the 24th operating 40 through 10 meters using SSB and some of the digital modes. More information including QSL routing is on QRZ.com under the callsign listing for KC9HYY. (KC9HYY) **

HAM HAPPENINGS: CELEBRATION MARCONI EXPERIMENTS FROM YACHT ELETTRA

Also keep an ear open for special event station IY1IEY to be on the air between November 1st and December 31st to commemorate the experiments conducted by Guglielmo Marconi from his yacht Elettra between 1919 and 1936. Operations will be on all of the High Frequency bands including 30, 17 and 12 meters. QSL IK1QBT direct. (OPDX) **

*73 until next month.
Jon K1TP*