CAARA Newsletter

CAPE ANN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION SEPTEMBER 2016

President's Desk

by Hank-W4RIG

I wanted to send my personal thanks to Jon and Dean for their fine job with the CAARA newsletter as well as to say how much I appreciated serving as your CAARA President for the past two years. There have been some trying times but mostly good work from the members that leave the facilities at 6 Stanwood in better shape than ever before. I continue to ask for all members to consider the impact on other members when they seem to have problems with interpersonal differences. Any emotional discord impacts on the membership and the potential to retain both new and old members. Differences of opinion need to be expressed in a civilized manner and should be mostly confined to the individuals involved - not requesting others to intervene unless person to person discussion and patience fails to calm the waters. Many differences of opinion are resolved by taking a step back before launching a quick response via email or other social media. Face to face discussion does wonders to settle most issues that impact on our smooth operation and cooperative efforts to deliver our services to our membership as well as the Cape Ann Community at large. All of us can do a better job if we take our time in responding to critical email or phone calls. Your Board and CAARA officers cannot solve interpersonal problems without your cooperation and understanding the basis of our differences and we should not be expected to solve problems that arise due to longstanding disagreements between individual members. My best wishes as always for another prosperous and productive year in Amateur Radio.
Hank, W4RIG

ANNUAL MEETING TO VOTE FOR OFFICERS SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

Information Desk

by Dean-KB1PGH

I was recently listening to a song on the radio where the theme was no one likes to put any effort into anything anymore because everything is "Automatic".Especially when it comes to cars nowadays.There are barely any more manual stick shifts in cars today compared to a generation ago.This got me thinking about the theme for this months column.I think amateur radio today is like running a stick shift manual transmission in an older car compared to today`s easy shifting automatic transmissions.What I`m getting at is that one actually has to put effort into learning on how to get a car to run in a manual transmission compared to absolutely no effort or learning involved into just putting it in drive in today`s cars.In amateur radio one actually has to learn how to operate a ham radio transceiver whereas my 3 year old can use cell phone transceiver.In ham radio one actually has to learn how to use the atmosphere as a conduit for your radio signal to reach someone else while in cellphone land it`s all done for you through cell tower,satellites and landlines.These are some reasons why the general public will never full appreciate radio like amateur radio operators do.It`s funny to see their faces gloss over while you try to explain to others why we put such an effort to talk around the world.It`s also unfortunate because it is another reason why some many newly licensed hams become so frustrated with this hobby and even quit because we do live in a society that takes so much for granted and expects everything to work all the time with just a push of a button or a click of a mouse.Some hams even get to the point where they think their radios are broken and their antenna stinks just because the propagation is lousy that day or time of year.So to sum it all up if your not willing to take the time to learn and to have patience in this hobby you`ll never make it.So before I forget the ARRL New England Convention in Boxboro is going to be held on September 9 10 and 11th in 2016 so don`t forget to go to that if you get the chance.Their website is

(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.

Jon Cunningham- K1TP Editor
Dean Burgess- KB1PGH Reporter

Welcome to CAARA:

CAARA, an ARRL affiliated club, operates the 2 meter W1GLO repeater on 145.130 MHz with antennas located on the cell 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 in now on the cell tower in the Blackburn Industrial Complex with greatly enhanced perfrormance.

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

www.boxboro.org for more information.With September upon us now is the time to inspect all of your outdoor coax and antenna systems for problems before it gets to cold to do anything.For myself I`ll have to make more of an effort to operate HF Portable before the weather turns.A few of us will be operating HF portable in the next couple months and we`ll let you know when we get some dates set.For this months prepper tip I should ask do you have a “Bug Out” kit at home? Something like a backpack full of survival gear that you can grab real quick in case ?You can find pre made ones online or make your own.It`s good practice to have survival gear and food and water to lat at least 3 days.Just type in “72 Hour survival gear kits list” on google and you`ll see plenty of stuff.Also September is FEMA`s “National Preparedness Month” and you can find out more information at www.ready.gov . See you next month!

I want to thank all of the participants in yesterday’s YuKan Run. This was a complicated event, with three different races—a 1 mile, 5 K and half-marathon starting at 8:00 AM in Rockport. There were over 900 runners on what turned out to be a hot day with little breeze. There were two ambulance calls, with one transportation to the hospital. There were six checkpoints on the course, a net control operator, a safety officer shadow and a tail car. The checkpoints moved around between races, and one moved from the outbound to inbound course during the half-marathon. One position saw a swap of operators during the race, and the tail car was swapped toward the end. Though the race was scheduled to end at 12:15 PM, due to the heat an one runner (walker), the race didn’t conclude until after 1:00 PM.

Water was a problem on the course and the race organizers were informed and responded, though changes will be made for next year’s race.

The communications team did a very professional job—you are all to be congratulated. Messages were concise and on subject. Information was relayed efficiently between the communications team and the race operations group.

Public event participation is the second rung of public service/emergency communications—where routine net check-ins and participation is the first. Learning your equipment by using it is a critical element in becoming a useful and productive member of the CAARA communications team.

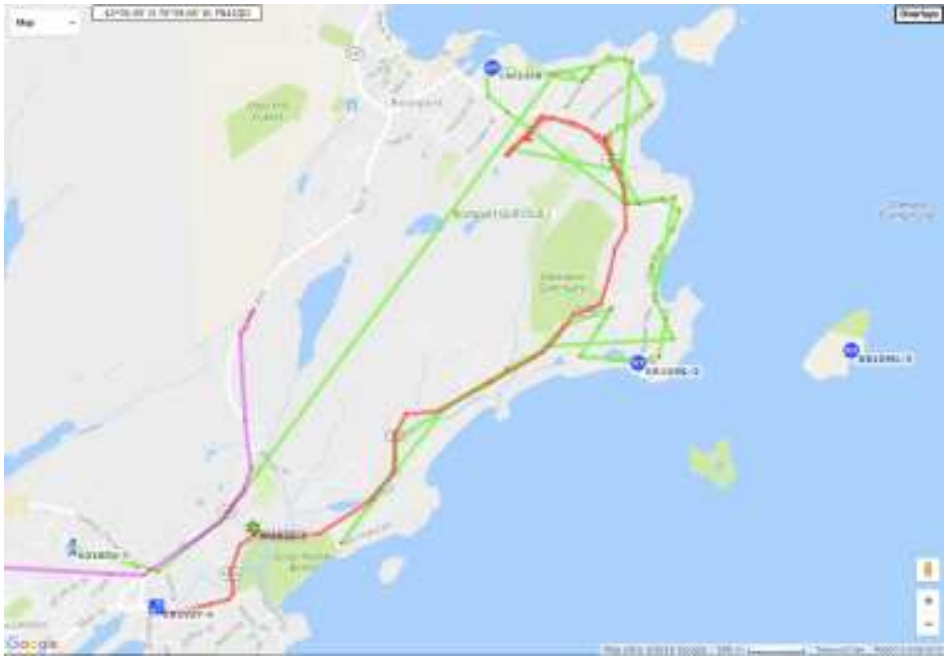
Again, thank you all for helping out and I hope to see you at the next event.

73,

Stan, W4HIX

Participants

Jon, K1TP
Hank, W4RIG
Chris, K1TAT
Nate, KB1VST
Gardi, KA1BTK
Carol, KC1BUA
Renee, KC1BAK
Curtis, AA3JE



WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE CAARA EMCOM CENTER?

THE TRUTH ABOUT DOING IT YOURSELF

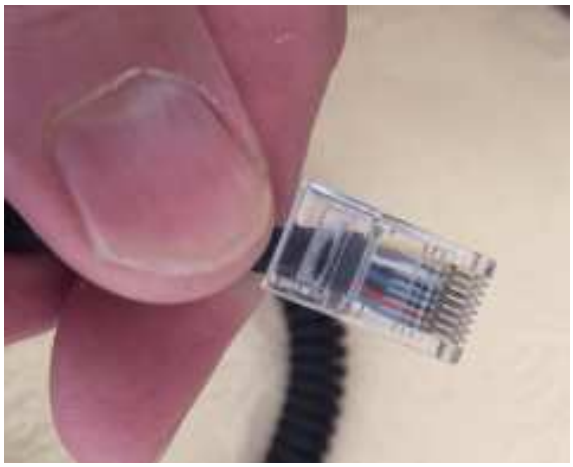
by Jon-K1TP

The curse that comes with being a retired shop teacher is the egotistical thought that with my vast experience teaching all areas of the trades is that I actually believe that I can fix anything and can master any tool in minutes. Hell, I survived 35 years with power tools and never lost any fingers....most of my students left class with ten fingers.

How hard could it be to replace a RJ12 connector on a Yaesu hand microphone? The black insulation had pulled out of the connector and surely was the reason the PTT did not work. I can fix this, I just need a crimping tool and a few connectors.

The solution was simple, either buy one or borrow one. I decided to borrow one because I only had one simple job to do. I sent an email out to the only known man who would have this tool in stock....Curtis-AA3JE and also the wisdom and experience to guide me along. I arrived at his house and made it to the basement without being bit by his guard dogs. It was a place of utter amazement, drill presses, milling machines, tools and gadgets I had never seen before. Curtis started the search for the tool and maybe a few connectors....Curtis found two tools that looked like new but no connectors. Why did he have two identical tools? You know the answer, he was looking for the tool one day and could not find it and had to buy another one. I now had the tool in hand and logged into Ebay and ordered 100 connectors.....because it would be silly to order just 12...I might need them someday. I went to Youtube online for instruction.

Within days the connectors arrived and I went to work.



The first connector went on great but I had the wires wrong....good thing I bought 100. These second one was cut wrong and the black insulation was not in far enough. The mike cord was getting shorter by the minute....one last try and yes, success. I had put it on correctly and it looked great.

I ran out to the truck and plugged it to my radio and planned on enjoying the glory of DYI but instead experienced the agony of defeat...it did not key up the radio.

I must have crimped it wrong so I clipped it off and started again and after a few more tries (and connectors) and yet more shortening of the mike cord, I ran back out to the truck for a quick try.....arghhhhh, it did not work!

I took the damn mike apart and used my ohmmeter to check the connections, they were all right and later found the PTT switch was bad and not the cable or connector.

I have now spent countless hours working and a few swearing along with $7.99 for a bag of 100 connectors.....The microphone was available on Ebay for $11.00 shipped....Yes, I ordered one. *Jon- K1TP*

On Sunday August 7th I was unexpectedly given a couple of hours of free time so I took advantage of that and did a portable HF ops session at my boss‘s farm in Essex Mass.While having a 3 year old I don‘t get much time to play ham radio so I had to make the best of it.I took all my gear to the farm and set up in a Maple Syruping shack to get out of the sun.This gave me a great opportunity to get used to operating my Yaesu FT 991.I also decided to use a different antenna this time instead of the Buddipole.I used the mast but I used a Hy Power 66 foot,off center fed dipole which will work on 40,20,10,6 and 2 meters.I also got the chance to use the MFJ 939y antenna tuner as well which I have never used an antenna tuner before so it was a good learning experience.I got everything set up,fired up the Honda EU 2000 generator,turned on the Yaesu FT 991 and tuned around the bands only to find out that they were pretty much dead.There was some solar wind and CME‘s around so the ionosphere was disturbed to say the least.Oh well,anyway I got to practice using an autotuner which I had never done so that was fun.The MFJ 939Y autotuner paired perfectly with the Yaesu FT 991.It has a cable that connects to HF Rig so the tune buton on the rig operates the autotuner.All It‘s pretty much plug and play.All I did was press and hold the tune button on the Yaesu Ft 991 and let it rip.The autotuner automatically puts the Yaesu Ft 991 in a low power ,CW mode and you hear the relays click and within a couple seconds the antenna is tuned!I should say the autotuner fakes out the radio thinking that the SWR is 1 to 1.The autotuner has a memory so if you tune up the frequency and go back to it later the tuning takes literally a second!I enjoyed using the Hy Power OCF dipole,It was easy to use and tune up on 40 and 20 meters,It was good to switch in between bands without having to change coils on the Buddipole!Too bad the band conditions were horrible!I had never worked 40 meters portable before as well!After 2 hours of tuning around I was able to contact the following stations:W4IMD Georgia,W1NVT Vermont-A National Parks on the air station,KK4RF Virginia,WB8TLI Ohio,KB3TGX Pennsylvania and W4BKI in Florida.Only 6 stations in 2 hours is a disgrace but when the bands are that dead what are you going to do?I tried 10 meters but nothing was heard.After 2 hours I packed up and went home but at least I got to exercise my equipment and got on the air! I will give a more detailed review of the Yaesu FT 991 next month.Thanks again Ross W1RAB for the black sheep mascot!

Crrrunch

by Curtis-AA3JE

I really must learn to be more careful. I was picking up a friend, giving him a ride home, and as it is summer, there was only one parking spot open. It was a bit tight, and there was a telephone pole dangerously close to the curb, so I gingerly backed in, showing the parallel-parking form that got me my driver's license on the third try. (I have not improved much since then).

Safely in, if a bit far from the curb, I waited. To my delight, a couple parked behind me with LOTS of time on their meter took their bright pink, sunburned bodies from Front Beach and crawled into their car. Then they left, after each blaming the other for forgetting the sun-screen. Marriage is so convenient that way. Everything is someone else's fault.

So, I checked the rear view camera, the side view mirrors, then turned around, and watching carefully, gingerly backed into the free parking space. Sometimes you get lucky!

"CCCCCCRRRRRRUUUUUUNNNNNCCCCCCHHHHH"

Shocked by the loud crunch, and the ensuing tinkling sound, I looked to my right, and saw a self-satisfied telephone pole finishing the job of eating my passenger side mirror.

Now I was in a fix, as "SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED" was not in my car, and neither was my friend. I was, in fact, the only person there! There was no one at all to blame!

Resolving to never let THAT happen again, I inspected the damage. The frame of the rear view mirror was OK, but the glass was truly shattered.

To make matters worse, my annual inspection was due, and even a blind inspector who had been bribed with a "double-latte Frappuccino with cinnamon" (his favorite) could not over look this. So, grumbling, I took my friend home, and wondered how to fix this one. Ordinary mirrors, circa 1965, I could fix, but this was a modern, Japanese, fully enclosed, motor driven, fully tilting, marvel of technology.

So I looked on the Internet. I have subsequently learned that if you do this, it is vitally important to specify the MAKE, MODEL, and YEAR of the car in question.

Carefully following the directions provided for a car I did not own, I got the heat gun, and a scraper, and to my delight, the mirror came right off. In very, tiny, very sharp, pieces. Stopping to apply antibiotic ointment and bandages (one cannot be too careful these days), I proceeded, only slightly hampered by the bandages.

Now the instructions at this point began to diverge sharply from what I saw, and I became suspicious.

Well, that and a big piece of black plastic, half melted from the heat gun, popped out.

Running back inside, stopping only to put a little cool water on my burns (the front of the heat gun gets amazingly hot), I looked again.

You guessed it. Right Make, Right Model, wrong year. On my car, the mirror is a really thin thing, glued with a heat-sensitive adhesive to a plastic backing plate. The video was very clear that HEAT SHOULD NOT BE USED, as the backing plate tends to distort.

Distort was not a strong enough word. "Puddle" might be better.

So, back to AMAZON, and after a rather brisk argument with the computer, I was indeed able to find a "MIRROR AND BACKING PLATE" assembly. So I ordered it. RUSH! SPECIAL HANDLING.

And spent the next day wondering if I should have gone to the part store.

My anxiety was picked up the second day by "SHE".

"WHY ARE YOU CHECKING FOR THE MAIL EVERY FIVE MINUTES. YOU BUY SOME OF THAT REALLY NASTY PORN AGAIN? I'M NOT PAYING FOR MORE INKJET INK FOR MY COPIER!"

"NO, my princess, I am expecting a mirror for my car."

"NOT ANOTHER ACCESSORY! THE LAST MIRROR STUCK OUT 2 FEET! IT MADE

PARKING IN THE DRIVEWAY IMPOSSIBLE!"

"No, this one is for the car, I broke it parking."

She snorted. It is always an impressive performance. Horses are quieter.

"WITH YOUR PARKING SKILLS, IT'S AMAZING THE FENDER IS STILL ATTACHED."

"Yes, dear."

But the mailman came, and I opened the box. Inside was a new mirror, and a clear set of instructions, in English, with pictures. Following them, I slid the new mirror in, pressed lightly with my thumbs, (ignoring the advice to use a bit of padding to avoid fingerprints), and it snapped in.

I was stunned. I had prepared myself with heat gun, RTV sealant, masking tape, water spray, everything.

It was done. Over. All fixed.

Nursing the wound to my heart, at being cheated of another struggle with an automobile, I consoled myself with the knowledge that the pole was still there.

It is only a matter of time.

BTECH MINI UV-2501+220 (Gen. 3) 25 Watt Tri Band Base, Mobile Radio: 136-174mhz

Kit Includes: BTECH UV-2501 220, Speaker Mic, 6 foot DC Cable with Cigarette Plug Connector, Radio. The UV-2501 220 update has an updated board which provides unmatched performance compared to any transceiver in its class - focusing on refined audio clarity, selectivity, and filtering. **About $140 for a 2, 220, 440 radio.....**

Nate DeWolfe KB1VST and Jeffrey Arnold K1EMS passed their amateur extra exams this morning Aug 18th. *Courtesy Ruth-WW1N*

DXpedition to Puerto Rico

While on vacation visiting friends and relatives in Puerto Rico during two weeks in July/August, I brought some ham gear for a mini DXpedition. I strung up a GR5V antenna between 2 palm trees and used my Yaesu 450D for some local Caribbean contacts. We stayed in a resort property along the southeast coast in Palmas Del Mar, Humacao.

Figure 1. GR5V between palm trees and KC1BAZ on mic.
During the day, my mother-in-law visited friends and relatives, while my xyl and I explored old abandoned sugar mills and plantations from the 1800s.

Figure 2. Old abandoned sugar mill and narrow gauge train used to bring the cane from fields to the mill.
While exploring the small town of Arroyo on the southern coast, we came upon an interesting site. In this little town was a large monument to Samuel Morse. It turns out that the inventor of morse code and co-inventor of the telegraph installed a telegraph line in this little town. Puerto Rico was part of the extensive Spanish Empire at that time. Samuel Morse's daughter married a young Dutch sugar cane owner in the neighboring town of

Guayama. While Morse was visiting his daughter in Puerto Rico during the winter of 1858, he decided to install a 2 mile long telegraph line between the main plantation house and the warehouse in the harbor, the first telegraph in all of Latin America.
There are a few small Morse related items from the 14,000 acre sugar estate in the local museum which was originally the Customs House.

Figure 3. Monument to Samuel Morse and Old Customs House Museum in the town of Arroyo.

Figure 4. El Junque Rain forest and coastal view in tropical Puerto Rico.
With temperatures in the 90's and many tropical downpours, both sightseeing and ham radio were a challenge, yet all-in-all an enjoyable trip.

Author & photographer: Charlie McCarthy, KC1BAZ

US ARISS Contacts - Call for Proposals Runs September 1 - November 1

Message to US Educators
Amateur Radio on the International Space Station
Contact Opportunity - Call for Proposals
Proposal Window September 1 - November 1, 2016

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and
organizations, individually or working together, to host an Amateur Radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS. ARISS anticipates that the contact would be held between July 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017.

Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan.

The deadline to submit a proposal is November 1, 2016. Proposal information and documents can be found atwww.arrl.org/hosting-an-ariss-contact.

The Opportunity
Crew members aboard the International Space Station will participate in scheduled Amateur Radio contacts. These radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length and allow students to interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session.

An ARISS contact is a voice-only communication opportunity via Amateur Radio between astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the space station and classrooms and communities. ARISS contacts afford education audiences the opportunity to learn firsthand from astronauts what it is like to live and work in space and to learn about space research conducted on the ISS. Students also will have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science. Because of the nature of human spaceflight and the complexity of scheduling activities aboard the ISS, organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in dates and times of the radio contact.

Amateur Radio organizations around the world, NASA, and space agencies in Russia, Canada, Japan and Europe sponsor this educational opportunity by providing the equipment and operational support to enable direct communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world via Amateur Radio. In the US, the program is managed by AMSAT (Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation) and ARRL (American Radio Relay League) in partnership with NASA and CASIS (Center for the Advancement of Science in Space).

For proposal information and more details such as expectations, proposal guidelines and proposal form, and dates and times of Information Sessions go to http://www.arrl.org/hosting-an-ariss-contact.
Please direct any questions to ariss at arrl dot org.

The primary goal of ARISS is to promote exploration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) topics by organizing scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crew members aboard the ISS and students in classrooms or informal education venues. With the help of experienced amateur radio volunteers, ISS crews speak directly with large audiences in a variety of public forums. Before and during these radio contacts, students, teachers, parents, and communities learn about space, space technologies, and amateur radio.

For more information, see www.ariss.org, www.amsat.org, and www.arrl.org.

Online ham radio sale triggers terror alarm

The Chinese ham radio sets being sold online have a frequency spectrum of 136 MHz to 174 MHz that covers weather satellites, amateur ham, police and marine. Sets with such powerful transmitting capacity in the wrong hands make the country vulnerable to subversive activities, says Indranil Majumdar VU2KFR, licensed amateur radio operator and an electronics engineer.

The Times of India reports on concerns over the unrestricted online sale of amateur radio sets which can be used across a wide spectrum

The newspaper says Kolkata Police is particularly wary of the sets being used by northeast-based terror outfits and even Islamic State modules in neighbouring Bangladesh.

While ham radio frequency is between 144 MHz and 146 MHz, some of the sets being sold over online retail platforms like Amazon India, eBay and ShopYourWorld have a much wider frequency spectrum that can be exploited by terror modules to communicate with each other. Cops in the state have received intelligence alerts about ham sets being used by the militant group Kamtapur Liberation Organization, which has a presence in north Bengal.
http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/Online-ham-radio-sale-triggers-terror-alarm/articleshow/53836502.cms

GUILTY PLEAS IN WORLDWIDE PRICE-FIXING CASE

STEPHEN: There are new developments in the ongoing U.S. federal probe into electronics price-fixing. Amateur Radio Newsline's Paul Braun WD9GCO has the details.

PAUL'S REPORT: In an ongoing U.S. Justice Department investigation, three more electronics companies have agreed to plead guilty in an international price-fixing conspiracy affecting the price of electrolytic capacitors worldwide. The agreement by Rubycon Corporation, Elna Co. Ltd. and Holy Stone Holdings Co., Ltd., brings to five the total of companies pleading guilty in the probe. Guilty pleas were previously entered by NEC TOKIN Corp. and Hitachi Chemical Co. Ltd.

One individual, Takuro Isawa, a former global sales manager for one of the manufacturers of the capacitors, was indicted last year as well for alleged participation in the conspiracy.

Deputy Assistant Attorney General Brent Snyder, of the justice department's Antitrust Division, said millions of American consumers were impacted by the price-fixing. In addition to their importance in amateur radio, the capacitors are also found in such consumer electronics as auto airbags and engines, computers, televisions, office equipment and home appliances.

Each of the three companies has agreed to pay a criminal fine and cooperate with the ongoing probe. The two previous companies have already been sentenced to pay. NEC TOKIN was fined $13.8 million and Hitachi Chemical was fined $3.8 million.

IN ALASKA, PREPARING TO PLAY THE HAARP

STEPHEN: Why does the ionosphere behave as it does? At a newly reopened research facility once owned by the U.S. military, university researchers about to ask that same question. Here's more from Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Damron, N8TMW.

JIM's REPORT: High frequency radio researchers in Alaska are about to embark on a behavioral study of the most powerful kind, but their work has nothing to do with the habits or psychology of amateur radio operators.

The scientists will be looking at the properties and behavior of the ionosphere, utilizing what is believed to be the world's most capable high-power HF transmitter. All this work is to be done at the High-Frequency Active Auroral Research Program, or HAARP, facility when it reopens in 2017.

The FCC has granted HAARP a pair of experimental service licenses to conduct the research at the facility, which is now owned by the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, which acquired it from the U.S. Air Force.

HAARP's research involves beaming radio waves straight up for hundreds of miles, sometimes with such power that the effects create an artificial aurora. Much of the research has applications in satellite communications and navigation.

UAF researcher Chris Fallen KL3WX told the ARRL that early next year the research will begin. License WI2XFX will cover testing beetween 2.65 MHz and 8.1MHz, and license WI2XDV will cover the part of the spectrum between 1 and 40 MHz.

ICOM DELIVERS A TOKYO SURPRISE

STEPHEN: If you're a leading manufacturer of amateur radio equipment, there's no better place to release the news of long-awaited new products than at the Tokyo Ham Fair, which recently concluded. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mike Askins KE5CXP tells us what radio giant Icom had in store there.

MIKE: Attendees at the Japan Amateur Radio League's Tokyo Ham Fair on Aug. 20th and 21st got quite an eyeful from Icom Inc. The manufacturer at long last trotted out the very samples it had been hinting at for the past few weeks in its online campaign. Visitors got their first glimpses of a few new products: Icom's IC-7610 will replace the IC-7600 as a 100-watt base station with built-in antenna tuner and capability for HF and 50MHz. Icom also rolled out the IC-R8600 wideband receiver to replace its IC-R8500. This receiver will operate in analog and digital modes and have a frequency range from 0.01-3000MHz. Among handhelds, Icom is introducing the IC-R30, an analog and digital model which succeeds the IC-R20 and can decode D-STAR, P25, NXDN and dPMR digital modes.

A special edition handheld model was also introduced: the ID-51 PLUS2, which permits D-STAR calls through the Internet, even in areas without access to D-STAR repeaters.

Though Icom revealed the samples, the company did not unveil details on prices or the products' launch dates.

With more than 36,000 participants at the ham fair, you can be sure there were a lot of eyes on Icom this year.

ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIPS GO TO YOUNG AMATEURS

STEPHEN: Bright young student engineers deserve to be encouraged, and the Ennes Educational Foundation Trust has done just that, with scholarships. Amateur Radio Newsline's Neil Rapp WB9VPG, has the details.

NEIL's REPORT: Two young radio amateurs are among the four winners of this year's scholarships from the Ennes Educational Foundation Trust, part of the Society of Broadcast Engineers.

Winners of the $1,500 scholarships include Clifford White W5CNW of Tyler Texas, who has held an Amateur

Extra license since he was 14. He is presently studying electrical engineering at LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas. Clifford was awarded the John H. Battison Founder's Scholarship to further his studies.

The foundation's Youth Scholarship was awarded to Ruth Willet KM4LAO. The Lawrenceville, Georgia, student will be double-majoring in mechanical engineering and engineering physics at Kettering College in Michigan.

The other recipients are James Copeland, a student engineer at his college radio station at Kansas State University, where he is a junior studying broadcasting. James, who was given the Robert Greenberg Scholarship, is a collector of Collins and Heathkit radios. The winner of the Harold E. Ennes Scholarship is Michael Frushour of Brookeville, Illinois, a TV production student at Columbia College in Chicago.

These annual scholarships are given to qualifying students in broadcast engineering and technology.

IN MAINE, A NEW NATIONAL MONUMENT TO ACTIVATE

The United States' National Parks system is celebrating its centennial by welcoming amateur radio operators into the parks from coast to coast to work the bands and possibly the world. Now there's one more scenic wilderness to consider, thanks to a gift from a foundation created by a multimillionaire businesswoman. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Embee, KB3TZD, tells us more. HEATHER: Just call it MN84. The nation's newest national monument within the U.S. National Parks Service is much more than that, of course. It's not quite 87,500 acres in northern Maine and it will be known as the Katahdin (Kuh-TAH-Din) Woods and Waters National Monument. The land donation, valued at $100 million, was given to the federal government by Elliotsville Plantation Inc., a foundation created by philanthropist Roxanne Quimby, who created the property over a period of years by buying parcels up from lumber companies. It is not far from Maine's Baxter State Park and Mount Katahdin, the highest peak in Maine. National Parks on the Air participants are now able to make plans for the site, which features the east branch of the Penobscot River and a section of the Maine Woods popular among cross-country skiers, snowshoers, canoers and fishing enthusiasts. Add to that list now all those amateur radio operators who will no doubt soon be setting their sights on MN84.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION HIGHLIGHTS INDIANA AIR SHOW

Pilots and amateur radio operators share a love of being on the air, so the combination seemed natural for one special event station in Indiana. Amateur Radio Newsline's Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, tells us how hams and an annual air show honor the memory of one local pilot. NEIL RAPP: A special event station operated in a joint effort by two radio clubs will take place in Madison, Indiana on Sunday, September 18th. The Clifty Amateur Radio Society, W9EFU, and the Ivy Tech Community College–Madison Campus Amateur Radio Club, KC9WQI, will be operating in conjunction with the 15th annual Riley Memorial Air Show. The fly-in is in memory of the late Doctor H. Schirmer Riley, a local physician who was also an avid pilot and the co-author of the book, "Two Pilots, One Engine," which describes his flight around the world. A lifelong pilot, he died in April of 2010. Clifty Amateur Radio Club officer and Faculty Sponsor of the Ivy Tech club Jerry Barnes, KA9PIJ, explains the cooperation of the two clubs. JERRY BARNES: We do a lot of our projects together. We ran Field Day together and we are going to do the air show together. So folks can receive a certificate. If they are lucky enough, they will make contact with both groups on the same date. NEIL: Listen for the clubs near 7.268 on 40 meters, 14.268 on 20 meters, and 28.440 on 10 meters. To get your electronic certificate for working the special event, submit your request to ka9pij@cinergymetro.netby Friday, September 25. Certificates for valid contacts will only be sent to your email address. No printed QSL cards will be available.

AVES ISLAND DXPEDITION PUT ON HOLD

The activation of Aves Island, a much-coveted DXCC entity, has been postponed. Amateur Radio Newsline's Stephen Kinford, N8WB, tells disappointed amateurs why it's not going forward, at least not now. STEPHEN: If you've been waiting for the big DXpedition to Aves Island, one of the world's top DXCC entities, you may have

to wait a little while longer — or even longer than that. Steve W4DTA reports that the plans for YX0V have been put on hold due to weather conditions. The activation was to have started in late August. Reporting on behalf of the team, Steve indicated that safety concerns were paramount, especially in light of the potential for storms. He hoped to provide updates in time. The expedition was to have operated for as many as 10 days, concluding on Sept. 10. Now its future is unclear.

HAM RADIO OUTLET REOPENS FORMER AES LOCATION

SKEETER: Ham Radio Outlet has opened its doors at the Milwaukee store that had once been headquarters to Amateur Electronic Supply, and a number of AES employees have been hired on to continue working at that location. Amateur Electronic Supply announced several weeks ago that after 59 years it was going out of the ham radio business. The Milwaukee store has since been renovated and has become the largest such retail outlet operated by HRO. The company announced its Saturday, Aug. 27 opening on Twitter, generating big excitement on social media. The store, with a total of 5,000 square feet, is considered to be HRO's Superstore. (TWITTER, ARRL) **

ACTOR, ADVOCATE BRIAN RIX, G2DQU, BECOMES SILENT KEY

While fans of Britain's Brian Rix will miss his comedic talents and his presence on stage and screen, amateur radio operators are grieving too. The bands will be that much emptier without him. We hear more from Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeremy Boot, G4NJH. JEREMY: The amateur radio world, along with the entertainment world and the world of disability advocates, are all mourning the death of British actor Brian Rix G2DQU. An honorary vice-president of the Radio Society of Great Britain, Lord Rix died on Saturday the 20th of August in London. A radio amateur since his early teens, he credited his older brother, Malcolm, G5GX, with first sparking that interest when they were children. Lord Rix became an actor as a young man and was later to enter the realm of politics as well as charity. An advocate for the rights of those with disabilities, he became president of Mencap, an organization that assists people with learning disabilities. Knighted in 1986, Lord Rix began service in the House of Lords in 1992, taking particular interest in issues that impacted telecommunications and any matters having to do with amateur radio, including the fight against interference from the polluting Power Line Telecommunications technology.

KIDS TAKE A SHINE TO LIGHTHOUSES

A group of young South African amateurs known as the Hammies helped activate a well-known lighthouse in the city of Port Elizabeth. Amateur Radio Newsline's Graham Kemp, VK4BB, tells us why these kids are likely to consider this year's International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend one to remember. GRAHAM: Donkin Reserve is a noted historical spot in the South African city of Port Elizabeth, but on Sunday the 21st of August, it also made some history for a group of youngsters and their ham radios. The Eastern Cape Hammies Club ZS2ZU worked the bands during the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend with the help of the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society ZS2PE. The youngsters landed some DX contacts and worked nine other lighthouses from the one at the reserve, which was built in 1861. The young amateurs also got another experience worthy of the history books. They worked the bands from a microbus outfitted with radios and antennas and owned by Al Akers, ZS2U. The camper became their radio shack for several hours, and though it never moved from its parking spot, it nonetheless transported the youngsters for miles and miles over the radio waves.

THE WORLD OF DX

In the World of DX, Bob, VK2BOB, will work from Samoa as 5W0BOB between September 10-17th. Listen for him on 40 and 20 meters using mainly SSB. Send QSL cards via VK2BOB direct only. His log will be uploaded to ClubLog. Gordon, K7TRB, will use the call sign 7P8VA from Maseru in Lesotho between now and November 5th. He will be on the bands from 80-10 meters and possibly on 6m as well. Listen for him on SSB and in the Digital Modes. Send QSLs to his home callsign, direct, by the Bureau and check to see whether he is on LoTW — as of press time he had not yet decided. Alejandro, LU9VEA, will be on Easter Island, working as

CE0Y/LU9VEA between September 26th and 30th. Listen for him on a variety of HF bands, working SSB. Send QSL cards to IK2DUW. In Santana, Madeira Island, listen for Dieter/DK4QT, Thomas/ DL6TK, Kalle/DM3BJ and a few others starting September 19th and running through the 28th. THey'll be active as CT9/homecall on 80 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. They also plan to be in the CQWW DX RTTY Contest, which is taking place September 24th and 25th, signing as CR3W. Send QSLs to CR3W via DL5AXX. Send QSLs to all others via their home callsigns. (OHIO PENN DX BULLETIN)

September 9, 10, & 11

Forums, Classes, Banquets all three days
Exhibit Hall & Flea Market: Sat 9-5 & Sun 9-2
Holiday Inn Boxboro Woods, Boxborough, Massachusetts

Sign Up for: Tech License Course VE EXAMS sponsored by CAARA!

PURCHASE TICKETS

Admission is $15, good all weekend - Flea Spaces $10,
good for Sat/SunFree admission for high school students & younger

Admission is reduced to $10 on Sunday at 11AM (no advance purchase available)