Treasure Coast Ham News

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Treasure Coast Ham News is an independent publication not affiliated with any ham club.

TCHamNews@gmail.com

2022 DXpeditions Are Here! Are You Ready?

8Q7TR
Maldives Islands
Jan. 1-3, 2022

Z220/Z21A
Zimbabwe
Feb 3-20, 2022

HD8M
Galapagos Islands
March 2-11, 2022

FO/Sp5EAQ
Rimitara, Austral Island
March 2-30, 2022

TL8ZZ/TL8ZZ
Central African Rep.
Spring 2022

CY0C
Sable Island
October 2022

CY9C
St Paul Island
October 2022

VK9CM
Cocos Keeling Island
Oct 26-Nov 3, 2022

2022 promises to be a good year for DXing. Sunspot Cycle 25, while so far weaker than past cycles, should still provide exciting DX opportunities. So get those HF antennas in good working order and be ready to work some exciting DX in 2022.

From the Publishers

Some of you may remember as kids taking two metal cans and string to make a rudimentary telephone. It sort of worked. Sometimes wetting the string helped. Were we really hearing the other can? Maybe we did.

Ham radio's ability to communicate through the ether without wires (or string) ushered in a mode of HF communication that continues to this day.

Increasingly however, VHF/UHF communication, especially digital modes rely on a blended approach of RF and connected (copper, fiber, Internet) technology and computers. This type of technology is not relegated only to ham radio. Cellular networks can not function without a connected technology. Public Safety uses it as well, but can employ microwave for redundant backup. All is good, except when it is not.

In mid-December a succession of violent tornados swept across parts of our nation. Property destruction was significant. Whole communities were left in rubble. Many lives were lost impacting families in untold ways. I did not hear too much about communication outages, but viewing the apparent destruction on TV, these communities were no doubt left in a communication abyss.

Hams are often called in to support local government's emergency communication needs. Our ability to deploy quickly and perform communication duties is part and parcel to the slogan *"When all else fails."*

As we enter 2022, our Treasure Coast ARES/RACES organizations need your support. If you have never participated in these organizations, please consider joining. They can use your help.

New Year's Resolutions

. Build something, rather than buying.
. Operate QRP CW and SSB.
. Try other modes besides FT8.
. Use only the minimum power necessary for communication. (Remember Part 97).
. Use good repeater practices including your call sign at regular intervals.
. Try an Arduino/Raspberry Pie software project.
. Take all precautions when setting up, disassembling or repairing an antenna near houses, powerlines, etc.
. Don't climb a tower without proper safety gear.
. Show non-hams the genuine value of Ham Radio.
. Be an Elmer to new hams both young and old.
. If operating HF DX abide by the DX Code of Conduct.
. Join a club and participate.

73, TCHamNews Publishers

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is an ARRL public service program.

DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Auxiliary Communications (AUXCOMM) Training Course Planned for February 2022.

The DHS/CISA Auxiliary Communications Training Course will be conducted February 7-9, 2022, in cooperation with the 75th Orlando HamCation in Orlando, Florida (30 student maximum capacity).

The class is designed for auxiliary communicators (AUXCOMM) and other communications groups who volunteer to provide backup radio communications support to public safety agencies, including volunteers from such organizations as SATERN, the Red Cross, REACT, and others.

This course focuses on auxiliary communications interoperability, the relationship between the Communications Leader (COML) and AUXCOMM volunteers, emergency operations center (EOC) etiquette, on-the-air etiquette, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules and regulations, and more.

The class is free to anyone who is accepted into the course.

More information is available here.

Treasure Coast ARES Emergency Coordinators

Martin County
Steve Marshall, WW4RX

St Lucie County
Paul Horner, W4ISZ

Indian River County
Bud Holman, WA4ASJ

Get involved, volunteer, and be a part of your county ARES.

VE License Testing Update

If your club is testing, please let us know the location, date and examination results

No Sessions Scheduled, but "On Demand" Testing Available

As we begin 2022, we are still not aware of any officially scheduled VE License Examination Sessions in the Treasure Coast area.

We anticipate that until the Covid-19 situation clears up it will remain difficult to find a venue willing to allow us to conduct an exam session. We will make an announcement once arrangements can be finalized.

Meanwhile, Port Saint Lucie ARA will arrange "on demand" exam sessions as necessary. If you or someone you know is ready to take an exam, email AI4RB, or call Bob at 772-201-5485.

The Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club is also offering license exams on an "as needed" basis at this time. Email ve@w4ot.com for information.

Watch next month's ***Treasure Coast Ham News*** for further updates.

For additional information on testing availability please contact one of the local Volunteer Examiners listed below.

Local License Exam Contacts

Vero Beach ARC
Bud L. Holman
(772) 559-3342
budholman@earthlink.net

Ft. Pierce ARC
Jess Porter
w4dns@arrl.net

Port St. Lucie ARA
Robert Brown
(772) 201-5485
brownpsl@comcast.net

PSL is Still Looking for a Venue

If you know of a location in Port Saint Lucie willing to host Saturday morning exam sessions please send an email to: brown-psl@comcast.net.

Update on the $35 FCC Processing Fee for New Licenses and Renewals

It now looks like the new FCC processing fee will become effective sometime in 2022, possibly early in the year.

If you are studying for a license you may want to take the exam soon. By doing so, you will avoid the new processing fee and retain $35 in your wallet.

Watch this column for an update when the effective date of the processing fee is announced.

Recent FCC Rule Changes

Email address required. Don't forget, effective June 29, 2021, all applications filed with the FCC by current licensees or new license candidates must include an email address where the applicant can receive FCC correspondence. More info is available on this ARRL webpage.

FCC Registration Number required. All license exam candidates are required to include an FCC Registration Number (FRN) on the license application form 605. Social Security numbers will no longer be accepted. Important - You must obtain your FRN prior to arriving at an examination session.

An FCC video provides instructions on obtaining an FRN. You can view it here.

Send VE news to tchamnews@gmail.com.

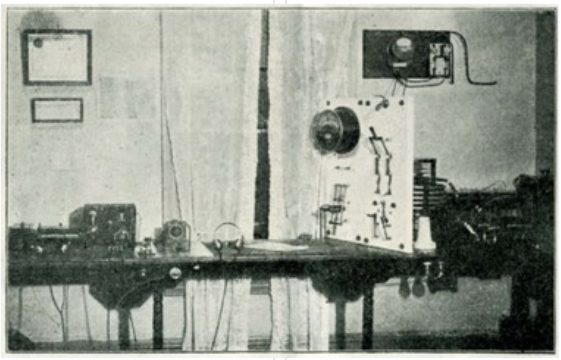
Ham Radio History: The First Regulations

by Chris Codella, W2PA

[Editor's note: The author, Chris Codella, W2PA, maintains a web site full of interesting stories about the development and evolution of radio communication. This story is the third in a series of articles planned over the next few months about the earliest days of radio history. The stories are reprinted here with permission of the author. Visit Ham Radio History.]

The First Regulations – *The end of free range hams*

The air began to fill with signals from military, commercial and amateur transmitters. By mid-1904 the Navy had established 20 coastal stations to make special broadcasts and communicate with 24 wireless-equipped ships. Perhaps a hundred or so high-power amateur stations were also operating in the United States at this point.



A "neat" station layout – from February 1916 QST

Companies started to be established around 1908, many based on wild claims impossible to satisfy, which therefore fed public skepticism about radio. But as the business environment stabilized, companies consolidated and commercial stations were built — most notably by United Wireless, a conglomeration of the most successful systems of the time. By 1910 the firm was operating 70 stations communicating with 400 ships.[1] This was commercial wireless telegraphy, a communication service; the broadcasting boom was still years away.

With increasingly more stations to hear, radio's popularity as a hobby exploded, producing more amateurs generating even more signals to hear. The demand for information about wireless outraced its availability. A lack of technical details in most published articles about radio left experimenters without a source of information useful for actually building receivers and transmitters. To fill the void some publications began to devote regular space to radio and new specialized journals emerged. Prominent among the new ones in 1908 was Modern Electrics, published in New York by businessman Hugo Gernsback, which grew to claim a circulation of 52,000 three years later.

Clubs played at least as big a role as magazines in expanding interest in radio. In New York, a group of boys with an average age of roughly 12 formed the Junior Wireless Club in January 1909 under the guidance of Fessenden. It was the first amateur radio organization. Two years later it was renamed the Radio Club of America. It would grow into one of the most significant technically-oriented clubs, attracting members deeply involved professionally in advancing the radio art, and inspiring the formation of many other such clubs around the country.

As a group, amateurs were the quickest to adopt and invent new wireless technologies, outpacing both the Navy and the commercial stations. In 1910 the number of amateur stations transmitting with high power transformers had grown to several thousand, with many more using small spark coils. Roughly twice again that number had set up receiving stations. Although not backed by any law, the Navy was issuing "certificates of skill in radio communication," mostly to amateurs, awarding 447 of them that year alone.

Since there was essentially no government regulation of radio at the time, no single group had the legal basis to claim priority over any other, and contention for use of the airwaves naturally ensued. There were simply too many stations attempting to use the same spectrum, the same "air." First to widely use tuners, amateurs held a distinct advantage in dealing with the crowding and interference.

Outnumbered and falling behind in technology, the Navy and United Wireless sought to do something about the amateur radio problem through legislation. In the spring of 1910 two bills were introduced in congress that would outlaw amateur activity, not by explicit writ but by exclusion. They both provided for certain classes of government-registered stations and outlawed any interference — without mentioning amateurs at all. Interference to registered stations would simply be illegal. Although it passed in the Senate, opposition quickly arose from individual amateurs and clubs across the country, notably including the Junior Wireless Club, sending the proposal to

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Ham Radio History: The First Regulations

by Chris Codella, W2PA

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defeat in the House of Representatives.[2] Other bills emerged in the same vein, including one in 1911 which was defeated by a similar opposition led by the R.C.A.

Marconi chose to weigh in on behalf of the amateurs, not out of altruism but for sound business reasons. Amateurs had been the primary buyers of tuning equipment that Marconi manufactured, and the company also wanted to break the lock that United Wireless had on the U.S. market and sell equipment to the Navy.

In 1912 the Navy took a new approach, attempting to establish a legal framework governing all wireless operation. Thirteen bills were introduced in congress. Wireless operations at sea could reach a maximum wavelength in the neighborhood of 600 meters, limited mainly by the size of ships, which restricted how long an antenna could be. Interference in the range of approximately 400 to 600 meters was therefore to be eliminated by the proposed law. Since wavelengths shorter than about 250 meters were considered mostly useless, the amateurs would be relegated to 200 meters or shorter, using a primary power not to exceed 1,000 watts. The final adjustment to the combined bill that emerged was to remove a requirement that even receiving stations must be licensed.

This time neither technological superiority nor sheer numbers could prevail against organized bureaucracy and the bill was signed into law by President Taft on 17 May 1912. Nineteen regulations governed the operation of radio stations in the US, any of which could be waived if no interference resulted. The Department of Commerce[3] would administer the new law including licensing and enforcement.[4]

The first few regulations dealt with matters common to all wireless operation, such as signal quality, time sharing, priority of certain services and distress calls. You had to get down to regulation fifteen to find the first one specifically aimed at amateurs:

No private or commercial station not engaged in the transaction of bona fide commercial business by radio communication or in experimentation in connection with the development and manufacture of radio apparatus for commercial purposes shall use a transmitting wave length exceeding two hundred meters, or a transformer input exceeding one kilowatt, except by special authority of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor contained in the license of that station…

The sixteenth regulation further restricted power to one-half kilowatt if the station was within five nautical miles of a naval or other military station.

Finally, the nineteenth regulation explicitly set forth strict privacy requirements:

*No person **or** persons engaged in or having knowledge of the operation of any station or stations, shall divulge or publish the contents of any messages transmitted or received by such station, except to the person or persons to whom the same may be directed, or their authorized agent, or to another station employed to forward such message to its destination, unless legally required so to do by the court of competent jurisdiction or other competent authority.*

Although it left no room for interpretation, this last regulation did not seem to apply to amateurs insofar as strictly amateur communications was involved.

The general introduction to the Amateur section of the regulations read:

The Department recognizes that radio communication offers a wholesome form of instructive recreation for amateurs. At the same time, its use for this purpose must observe strictly the rights of others to the uninterrupted use of apparatus for important public and commercial purposes. The Department will not knowingly issue a license to an amateur who does not recognize and will not obey this principle.

Second grade amateur operator licenses were granted simply upon application by anyone located where a test could not be arranged—no testing was involved. A First Grade license required one to pass a written essay exam and demonstrate an ability to transmit and receive Continental Morse. Although the regulations specified no speed requirement,[5] proficiency at 5 words per minute was the generally applied standard.

While general amateur stations were restricted to

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Ham Radio History: The First Regulations

by Chris Codella, W2PA

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200 meters or lower and 1 kW or less, special amateur stations could be allowed to operate at longer wavelengths and higher power. The regulations stipulated that:

Applications for this class from amateurs with less than two years experience in actual radio communication will not be approved. The application must state the experience and purpose of the applicant, the local conditions of radio communication, especially of maritime radio communication in the vicinity of the station, and a special license will be granted only if some substantial benefit to the art or to commerce apart from individual amusement seems probable.

In the first four months of 1913, 1,185 amateur licenses were issued, and by year's end that number had reached nearly 2,000. But many more amateurs simply did not opt to get licensed at all, finding it unnecessary if they were careful to not interfere with commercial and government stations. By the end of June 1914 there were more than 5,000 licensed amateurs, and an estimated twice that many amateur transmitters in actual operation.[6] With the government paying attention mostly to commercial stations, lack of enforcement resulted primarily from a lack of funding for it.

Irving Vermilya was one of the first to take the exam for a first grade license, received Certificate of Skill #1 and became recognized as the first official radio amateur in the United States.

Later, he recounted the early part of his story in a humorous two-part article beginning in February 1917 QST,[7] titled "Amateur Number One," a moniker he would retain for the rest of his life.

A station license was also required for an amateur to own and operate a transmitter. In some cases family members would share a station license. Several pairs of brothers did so and their stations were among the most well known on the air. In Los Angeles, the Seefred brothers, Howard and Lyndon, operated a joint station, 6EA and were frequently referred to simply as "Seefreds." The Mumford brothers in Washington similarly operated together as 7CU as did the Robinson brothers with their station, 2QR in Keyport, New Jersey. Less frequently, there were also instances of married couples sharing a station, for example, Professor and Mrs. Charles Candler in Marysville, Ohio, who operated 8NH, one of the most active stations in the Midwest.

Amateurs had narrowly escaped extinction but now found their operation limited under government restrictions for the first time, relegated to the worthless wavelengths near 200 meters by the 1912 law. Or so it seemed.

AR W2PA

Footnotes

1 T. S. W. Lewis, "Empire of the Air," Harper Collins Publishers, New York, 1991, 50 ↩

2 Clinton B. DeSoto, "Two Hundred Meters and Down," The American Radio Relay League, Inc., 1936, 30.↩

3 Then, the Department of Commerce and Labor, which would change the following year when the Department of Labor was created.↩

4 Clinton B. DeSoto, "Two Hundred Meters and Down,"

5 The American Radio Relay League, Inc., 1936, 31-32. ↩ In fact, it stipulated that "no speed rate will be prescribed." ↩

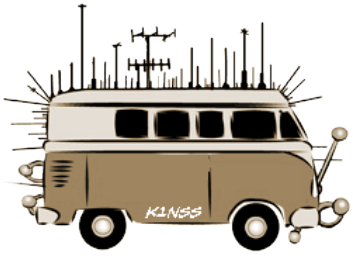
6 Clinton B. DeSoto, "Two Hundred Meters and Down," The American Radio Relay League, Inc., 1936, 34-35. ↩

7 Irving Vermilya, "Amateur Number One," QST, February 1917, 8., March 1917, 10. ↩

(Coming next month: Getting Organized)

(Are you enjoying this series? Please let us know. Send your comments to tchamnews@gmail.com.)

Got My License, Now What? - Operating Mobile



Driving a motor vehicle can be a challenge. Too many cars, too many distractions, and too many drivers not obeying traffic laws. There was a time when you learned how to drive in high school driver's education classes or driving schools. They provided the right combination of learning about traffic laws and practical driving on both a closed track and the open road. The emphasis was on defensive driving and keeping your eyes on the road.

In those days, cars had AM/FM radios and tape players. No cell phones, GPS, or connected technology to deal with. Today that is all changed. The manufacturers lead us to believe we can't live without their car technology. Vehicle dashboards are filled with technology to distract you from your principal job of driving defensively and safely.

Almost every new ham buys an VHF/UHF HT. Early on these HTs were two-way radios. While that function is still there for the moment, today ham radio manufacturers are following the lead of cellular phones and adding many features they claim we need or have requested.

For the most part, hams are very careful when using their radios. According to the National Safety Council (NSC) talking on a cellular phone while driving can result in crashes four times that of other drivers. I would bet texting has risen above cellular phones based on the number of states that have codified texting while driving as an offense. However, I do wonder about enforcement. I see far too many drivers with no hands showing on the steering wheel and with their heads looking down while driving.

The good news is that the NSC saw no evidence that using amateur radios while driving posed increased crash risks. According to them, *"We have no evidence that using two-way radios while driving poses significant crash risks. Until such time as compelling, peer-reviewed scientific research is presented that denotes significant risks associated with the use of amateur radios, two-way radios, or other communication devices, the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibition on their use."* I guess some of our state legislatures didn't get the memo, as more and more are including amateur radio in their distracted driving laws.

But amateur radio operators should not think they are given a free pass. Distracted driving is very serious and everywhere. Just drive. Not only should hams make sure they are driving defensively, they need to be extra aware that drivers behind, in front and on either side of them are not always practicing safe driving.

Drive down almost any street, highway or interstate and you see drivers not keeping their eyes on the road. They easily get distracted by someone talking to them in the vehicle, looking for a gas station or restaurant or talking on the phone. A study done by Virginia Tech's Transportation Institute (VTTI) for the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) quantified how long is too long a distraction for drivers. View the study here: **Radio Tuning Effects on Visual and Driving Performance Measures – Simulator and Test Track Studies**. While not explicitly about amateur radio, the study states that individual eye glances away from forward driving should not exceed 2 seconds. Furthermore, total eyes-off-road time should not exceed 12.1 seconds. I don't know about you but just reaching to grab an HT or a mobile radio microphone to answer a call, could be more than a couple of seconds.

Here are some takeaways for us to consider when operating mobile:

1) Operating the push to talk switch on an HT or mobile radio while driving is ok.
2) Pushing buttons on an HT or mobile radio microphone keypad while driving is not ok.
3) Rotating the radio tuning knob to manually enter a new frequency while driving is not ok.
4) Changing radio menu settings while driving is not ok.
5) Reading APRS messages from a mobile radio display while driving is probably not so good, either.

The best way we can prove to our elected representatives and fellow citizens that amateur radio operators should not be included in distracted driving laws is to drive responsibly and use our ham radios in a responsible manner. **Remember, safe operating is paramount.**

Upcoming Hamfests

FLORIDA

02/10/2022 - 02/13/2022
Orlando HamCation, 2022 ARRL National Convention
Location: Orlando, FL
Sponsor: Orlando ARC
Website: https://www.hamcation.com and http://www.arrl.org/expo

02/19/2022 - Highlands Co. Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
Location: Sebring, FL
Sponsor: Highlands County Amateur Radio Club
Website: http://highlandsamateurradio.com

03/19/2022 - 47th Annual Martin Co. HamFest, ARRL South Florida Section Convention
Location: Stuart , FL
Sponsor: Martin County Amateur Radio Association (MCARA)
Website: http://stuarthamfest.com

According to the Internet, a Hamfest is a gathering of people interested in Amateur Radio. Hamfests offer exhibits, forums and flea markets for Amateur Radio operators or "hams." What you can see at a Hamfest is a gathering of hams enjoying ham camaraderie. This is the intangible benefit of all Hamfests. We like to have the opportunity to gather and meet our friends from other parts of Florida and elsewhere.

Location: Central Florida Fairgrounds & Expo Park, 4603 West Colonial Dr. Orlando, Florida 32808. **GET DIRECTIONS**

Dates/Times: February 11 & 12, 2022, 9AM to 5PM. February 13, 2022 , 9AM to 2PM.

Ticket Info: Purchase tickets online or via mail. Parking at HamCation is FREE! Tickets are available online, via mail, or at the event on the days of the event. **GET TICKETS**

Talk-In: Talk-in will be on the 146.760 (-600/ PL 103.5) KB4UT repeater. This repeater is a mix mode System Fusion repeater located in beautiful downtown Orlando and has good coverage throughout the central Florida region. Backup talk-in will be on the 443.050 (+5.00 PL 103.5) repeater. DSTAR: K1XC, 146.820 (-.600).

HamCation Information Station: AM610 Radio
Amateur Radio and Information Radio will merge at the same venue in Central Florida. HamCation will utilize licensed, low power "HamCation Information Station - AM610" as a new tool to push information out to attendees as they approach the event, including traffic, weather info, parking and event details.

Ham Radio Trivia

Answer to last month's question:

Last month's question featured a little known ham famous for a certain achievement.

December Trivia Question

Question:
Amateur licensee Dr. Owen Garriott, W5LFL, is famous for what accomplishment? *(No fair looking him up on the internet!)*

A. First amateur QSO from a submerged nuclear submarine in 1965.
B. First amateur QSO from atop Mount Everest in 2002.
C. First amateur QSO from space in 1983.
D. First (and only) American to QSO from North Korea in 1958.

The correct answer is "C." Dr. Garriott flew the 10-day STS-9 / Spacelab 1 mission on the Space Shuttle *Columbia*. While in orbit he operated the first amateur radio station from space using his W5LFL call sign.

* * * * *

January Trivia Question

The question this month is about a slang term I recently heard used on the air. Let's see if you know the meaning of this term.

Question:
What is the meaning if the term "Lid" when used in ham radio lingo?

A. A sloppy or careless operator.
B. An unlicensed operator working the ham bands.
C. An overly loud signal resulting in distortion.
D. A transmission on a frequency not authorized by the operator's license class.

(We will reveal the answer next month.)

(Know a good trivia question? Send it to us at: tchamnews@gmail.com.)

"Brush up on your radio knowledge, skills and trivia."

2022 Upcoming QRP Events

[QRP is a lower power (typically 5 watts or less) operating mode. Many QRP hams build their own equipment. Most of the major ham vendors offer QRP radios. Some POTA (Parks on the Air) operations are QRP. If you haven't given it a try, you should. Below are a list of upcoming QRP events. There are also occasional local QRP events.]

QRP ARCI New Year Sprint
January 1, 1500Z - 1800Z
QRP ARCI Spring Thaw SSB Shootout
2nd Saturday in March, 2200Z - 2300Z
QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party
2nd Saturday in April, 0000Z - 0600Z
QRP ARCI - Hamvention Contest
May 16, 2020, 1200Z - 2400Z
QRP ARCI Hoot Owl Shootout
4th Monday in May, 0000Z - 0100Z
QRP ARCI - Field Day Contest
June 27 & 28, 2020
QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint
2nd Sunday in July, 2000Z - 2300Z
QRP ARCI European Sprint
2nd Saturday in August, 0800Z - 1100Z
QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party
2nd Saturday in October, 0000Z - 2359Z
QRP ARCI Top Band Sprint
1st Thursday in December, 0000Z - 0300Z
Wednesday Evening Eastern Time
QRP ARCI Holiday Homebrew Sprint
2nd Sunday in December, 2000Z - 2300Z

4SQRP Second Sunday Sprint
Second Sunday of every month
7 PM - 9 PM Central Time

NAQCC Regular Monthly Sprint
Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov - 3rd Wednesday evening & Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec - 2nd Tuesday evening (USA time)

NAQCC 160M Sprint
4th Wednesday evening (USA time) in January
NAQCC mW Sprint
2nd Tuesday evening (USA time) in June
NAQCC Anniversary Celebration
2nd Tuesday evening (USA time) in October
NAQCC mW Sprint
2nd Tuesday evening (usa time) in December

Flying Pigs WALK for the BACON 40 Meter Version
This is a 2-part, QRS, Slow Speed Contest using 5 and no more that 13 WPM First Wednesday of every month, starts 0000Z, ends 0100Z The following Day, starts 0200Z, ends 0300Z
Flying Pigs WALK for the BACON 20 Meter Version
This is a 2-part, QRS, Slow Speed Contest using 5 and no more that 13 WPM Third Wednesday of every month, starts 0000Z, ends 0100Z The following Day, starts 0200Z, ends 0300Z
Flying Pigs RUN for the BACON (The Original PigRun)
Third Sunday of every month
starting 2300Z Sunday & ending 0100Z Monday
FPqrp - Pig Out Sprint (POS)
July 26 2020, 1700Z - 2100Z
Place Holder Contest for the FOBB

AzScQRPions FYBO Contest
1st Saturday in February, 1400Z - 2400Z

NOGA QRP Club - Peanut Power Sprint
1st Sunday in October, 2200Z - 2359Z

If you know of a QRP event not listed, please let us know and we will include in a future newsletter. tchanews@gmail.com.

Welcome to the Treasure Coast Ham News Monthly Meeting, Nets, and Events Calendar.

If you know of an event, net, or meeting and think it would be of interest to our Treasure Coast Hams, please let us know. As with anything new, you can help us make the calendar better. Send your event announcements to tchamnews@gmail.com.

January 2022

December '21

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February '22

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

26	27	28	29	30	31	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
2 **TC R/T Net-8:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2) **SKYWARN Net-9:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2)	3 **Slow CW Net-6:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2) **MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm** 145.500(-) (107.2)	4 **IRC ARES Net-7:30pm** 145.130(-) (107.2) **FPARC R/T Net-8:00pm** 147.35(+) (107.2) **D-Star Net-8:30pm** 444.500(+5) Port B	5 **SLC ARES Net-7:30pm** 147.240(+) (107.2) or Winlink Checkin send to W4ISZ	6 **Slow CW Net-6:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2)	7	8
9 **TC R/T Net-8:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2) **SKYWARN Net-9:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2)	10 **Slow CW Net-6:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2) **MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm** 145.500(-) (107.2)	11 **IRC ARES Net-7:30pm** 145.130(-) (107.2) **FPARC R/T Net-8:00pm** 147.35(+) (107.2) **D-Star Net-8:30pm** 444.500(+5) Port B	12 **FPARC Mtg-7:30pm** Indian River State College Ft. Pierce-Bldg R, Rm 131	13 **PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **VBARC Mtg-7:30pm** 4325 43rd Av Vero Bch **MCARA ARES Mtg-7:00pm** 800 SE Monterey, Stuart	14	15 **Vero Beach ARC QRP Outing 8:00am**
16 **TC R/T Net-8:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2) **SKYWARN Net-9:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2)	17 **Slow CW Net-6:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2) **MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm** 145.500(-) (107.2)	18 **IRC ARES Net-7:30pm** 145.130(-) (107.2) **FPARC R/T Net-8:00pm** 147.35(+) (107.2) **D-Star Net-8:30pm** 444.500(+5) Port B	19 **SLC ARES Mtg-7:30pm** SLC EOC-15305 Midway Ft. Pierce	20 **Slow CW Net-6:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **MCARA Mtg-7:00pm** 830 Martin L. King Blvd **PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2)	21	22
23 **TC R/T Net** 146.775(-) (107.2) **SKYWARN Net-9:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2)	24 **Slow CW Net-6:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2) **MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm** 145.500(-) (107.2)	25 **IRC ARES Net-7:30pm** 145.130(-) (107.2) **FPARC R/T Net-8:00pm** 147.35(+) (107.2) **D-Star Net-8:30pm** 444.500(+5) Port B	26 **PSLARA Mtg-7:30pm** Location: Zoom or TBD	27 **Slow CW Net-6:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **PSLARA R/T Net-7:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2)	28	29
30 **TC R/T Net** 146.775(-) (107.2) **SKYWARN Net-9:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2)	31 **Slow CW Net-6:30pm** 146.995(-) (107.2) **IRC Emer. Net-8:00pm** 146.775(-) (107.2) **MCARA R/T Net-8:00pm** 145.500(-) (107.2)	TC: Treasure Coast IRC: Indian River County SLC: St. Lucie County PSLARA: Port St. Lucie Amateur Radio Association (www.pslara.org) FPARC: Ft. Pierce Amateur Radio Club (https://fparc.org/) MCARA: Martin County Amateur Radio Association (https://mcaraweb.com/) VBARC: Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club (http://www.w4ot.com/)			R/T: Ragchew/Traders Emer.: Emergency	

HOA- Problem Solved! No kidding! – This problem can be solved NOW

(Editor's note: Back issues of Treasure Coast Ham News containing all of Bruce's articles are archived at www.pslara.org. From the left side menu select "Pub Documents," then scroll down to Ham Newsletters.)

Does the following describe you? You want to put up a tower with large rotating HF antenna, but HOA or other land restrictions are stopping you? You desire to put this problem behind you now and get on the air.

Problem solved - A small group of hams are talking about joining forces and building a strong HF remote controlled station. While anyone can build a "so-so" remote station, we are proposing something much better, a strong perhaps world class HF joint station that can be operated from your home. Proposed is a multi operator multi HF station. Below is an example of what can be possible.

Yes, I would like to be a part of this. Understand that the tower and other construction costs would be shared by the group. Thus, the cost would be far less than if you did this on your own. All members will bring somethng to the table. A good word is ***Synergy***, (producing a product greater than the sum of its parts).

If you are wondering if you have what it takes to be part of the team, then my guess is ***you do***! If you are willing to work with us, then you ***are in***! If you want to learn and teach, then you ***are perfect***! All of us have different talents and working together we have ***Synergy***!

If you want to have a big signal and be part of this team, please respond to the survey described below. Tell us about your interest in participating in a remote HF station project, and how you would operate the station should it be built. Click the survey link below.

HOA problem solved. A remotely operated HF station solves the HOA problem. You can check it off your list.

Radio clubs can also answer your antenna and station questions and provide additional information to help you make better HF choices. Speak up at club meetings and activities. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

73, Bruce, W8HW (*w8hw@comcast.net.*)

Comments about this article? Send to tchamnews@gmail.com.

Please help Bruce by taking a survey about remote operating capability. Spend a moment of your time and answer a few questions. The results will be published in a future TCHN. Thanks!

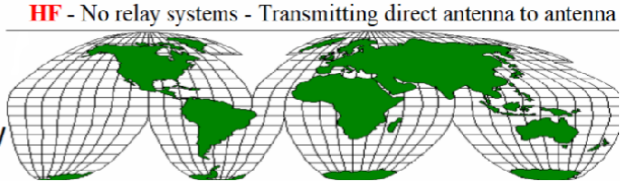
REMOTE OPERATING SURVEY

Don't buy it… Build it… Learn how it works...

Talking to the world

73
Bruce
W8HW

HF - No relay systems - Transmitting direct antenna to antenna



The Frugal Ham Radio Operator

Things EVERY ham needs to know or have:
1) Thorough understanding of Part 97. Period!
2) Understanding of ham operating skills and protocols.
3) Understanding of radio theory and troubleshooting skills. *(Hopefully you learned electronics and radio theory rather than memorizing those license exam questions.)*
4) An ARRL or RSGB Handbook *(any year).*
5) An ARRL Antenna book *(any year)* or Joe Carr's Practical Antenna Handbook. *(There are others as well.)*
6) A 100 watt, 50 ohm dummy load.
7) An RF field strength meter. These are incredibly simple to build....all you need is a piece of wire, a diode and a millimeter. Used for relative readings - not accuracy.
8) A digital multimeter or VTVM (for older gear). A good quality meter can be bought to fit your budget.
9) A soldering iron, solder, and assorted soldering tools. I use several different thicknesses of electronic solder.
10) Compressed air, contact cleaner, Isopropyl Alcohol.
11) An RF signal generator. Vintage for boat anchors or Chinese (not expensive) for more modern equipment.
12) An analog or digital peak watt meter & a SWR meter.
13) If you design radio circuits a breadboard is helpful. There are computer applications that can replicate many different types of analog/digital circuits. Many are free.
14) Hand tools (screwdrivers, nut drivers, needle nose pliers, flush cutters, wire cutters, hemostats, small files and tweezers, etc.) Alligator clip leads - lots of them.
15) Magnetic parts dish or screws and other pieces of small hardware.
16) Coaxial adapters and gender changers. Coaxial jumpers. Build - easy to solder or crimp. No Chinese crap!
17) Various sizes/lengths of coaxial & connectors. They aren't a universal size. Anderson power poles.
18) Regulated bench power supply, 0 to 15VDC, 3 amps.
19) A bench mount magnifying light. A headset magnifier.
20) A USB microscope with stand. If you have never used one, you don't know what you are missing. If you solder surface mount parts, you will want one. A circuit board clamping kit. A Vellman VTHH6 is a nice one.
21) A NanoSA spectrum analyzer. Best $60 you will spend. A NanoVNA vector network analyzer. Time to repurpose that MFJ259.
22) A well stocked junk box. Local electronic parts stores are mostly gone. MPJA in Riviera Bch. is an exception.
23) Plastic boxes or containers for parts of all sizes.
24) A portable scientific calculator. Computers, tablets, phones, and the Internet have them, but portable scientific calculators can't be beat.
25) Don't be afraid to ask for help or give it when asked

Have something to add, please let me know.

73, The Frugal Ham

Short Takes

Calculator.Net
https://www.calculator.net/

The Ohio Pennsylvania DX Bulletin - Internet Edition
https://www.papays.com/opdx.html

Two hidden tools in a (modern-day) electrical outlet
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NzyOLVoUpqA&t=1s

LY2H Ham Radio Van
https://www.youtube.com/c/LY2HHamRadioVan/videos

VOACAP Online for Ham Radio
https://www.voacap.com/hf/

The ELF Network: The untold story
https://mcwa.org/2021/12/the-elf-network-the-untold-story/

Amateur Radio License Map
https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map

Repeaters, Repeaters and More Repeaters - A comprehensive listing of repeaters worldwide
www.repeaterbook.com

Google Groups

Interested in military aviation communications?
https://groups.io/g/Militaryscan/

Learn more about FT8 operating:
https://groups.io/g/FT8-Digital-Mode/

Looking for a manual for an old radio or piece of test equipment?
https://groups.io/g/ManualExchange/

See an interesting web site or Group? Share it. Send link to tchamnews@gmail.com

2022 WINTER FIELD DAY

St. Lucie County ARES is sponsoring a Winter Field Day event on SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 2022 at the SLC Rock Road tower site, 101 N Rock Rd, Fort Pierce, FL. Just off of Orange Ave, west of I-95.

Mark your calendars now for the first in-person operating event of 2022!

More information will follow as we firm up plans for food, operating stations and a presentation regarding digital modes.

Paul Horner, W4ISZ
SLC Emergency Coordinator
St. Lucie County ARES

Treasure Coast Ham Doctors

About the Colors in WSJT-X

Question:
I've been working FT8 using WSJT-X for about a month now. Needless to say, I am still deep in the learning curve.

I find that at times when band activity is busy I quickly become confused (or perhaps intimidated is a better word) by the many different colors used by the software to display CQ calls in the main screen's left side (receive) window.

Can you explain the significance of the different colors and perhaps offer suggestions on how to better manage CQ calls without becoming confused and frustrated? Thanks.

Answer:
We hear you load and clear. Both doctors also found the WSJT-X multicolored display screen confusing and a bit frustrating to understand when we were learning FT8. I'll bet a number of other operators experience similar confusion. So let's try to clear things up a bit.

There is logic behind the colors. To understand this logic let's begin by discussing the color screen which is found by selecting ***File - Settings - Colors*** from the menu bar on the WSJT-X main screen. (An alternate way to open the Colors screen is by simply pressing the F2 key on most computers.)

For purposes of this discussion we will assume your colors are set to the factory defaults. Should you have changed some colors, we suggest you should click on ***Reset Highlighting*** to restore factory default colors.

The Colors screen lists 16 different message types, each in a different color. Except for ***My Call in Message***, ***LotW User*** and ***Transmitted Message***, which have special meanings, the 13 others all refer to CQ calls. CQs you receive will display the call in one of these colors.

So now you are probably wondering, how does it decide which color to display? That's Easy. One at a time the software analyzes each message received in a 15 second sweep. If the message is not a CQ call and does not contain your personal call sign within it, the message displays with a white background. If the message does contains your call sign it displays with a red background.

CQ calls get processed differently. The software analyzes the call sign in the message and based on the results of the analysis chooses a color for displaying the message.

The logic is straightforward. Consider the rows on the Colors screen as a checklist. Each is a "New" Continent, CQ Zone, DXCC (country), Grid or Call.

The software compares every CQ call against the checked rows on the Colors screen beginning at the top and working down until it finds a condition that the message satisfies. It then displays the message in the color of the first condition that it satisfied.

Calls already in your log will not meet any of the checklist criteria meaning they will display in green.

This process is repeated for every CQ call in the 15 second sweep.

73, The Doctors

FT8 / WSJT-X Operating Tip

Managing the Colors Screen

Depending on lighting conditions, monitor age and other factors some of the default colors displayed in the WSJT -X receive (left) window may be hard to view.

Fortunately, the software provides you with the ability to change both foreground and background colors for every condition listed on the WSJT-X Colors screen.

To make changes, go to ***File - Settings - Colors*** from WSJT's main menu (or press the F2 shortcut key).

Right click on any decoding condition to change either foreground or background color.

You can also check and uncheck the conditions you want CQ calls to be checked against. For new FT8 / WSJT-X operators deselecting the New Continent, New CQ Zon eand New ITU Zone conditions may make the Receive window easier to understand.

Send questions or tips to tchamnews@gmail.com.

At least several times a year Slow Scan TV (SSTV) images are broadcast from the International Space Station (ISS) on 2 meters.

The images can be received with a two-meter amateur radio, a scanner, an SDR dongle or almost any radio capable of receiving an FM wideband 145.800 MHz signal. A quarter wave vertical antenna can be adequate to receive the SSTV image.

For those who want to try the Internet, worldwide websdr.org receiving sites can also be used.

Free software applications are available. Popular ones are RX-SSTV and MMSSTV.

Ramblings of an Antenna Alchemist

In late December Russian cosmonauts on the International Space Station (ISS) transmitted slow-scan TV (SSTV) images on 145.800 MHz FM, 25kHz channel spacing. The SSTV mode was PD120. The transmissions were part of the Moscow Aviation Institute SSTV experiment (MAI-75) and were made from RS0ISS in the Russian Service Module of the ISS using a Kenwood TM-D710 transceiver.

(*Image captured by John, KK4SHF)*

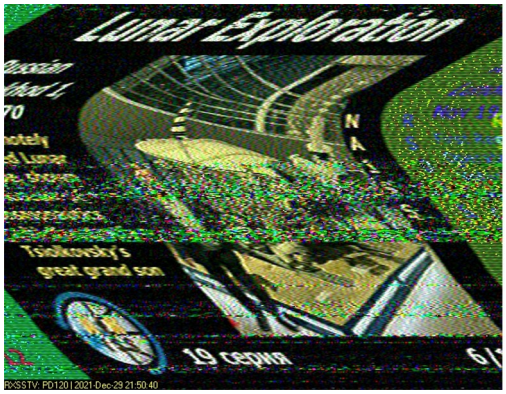
Many years ago I experimented with terrestrial and 137mHz satellite WEFAX. The process to receive and decode was far more complicated than today, but not impossible. A stable shortwave receiver or a ham radio with a general coverage receiver was used along with decoding software. For the 137mHz satellite reception I used a simple Doppler antenna fed to a receiver.

If you have never tried receiving the ISS SSTV (or any) images I would advise taking a trip to AMSAT-UK's website. They have a multitude of information that can help you. The main AMSAT website also has a wealth of information. There are also many YouTube videos, if visual learning is your thing.

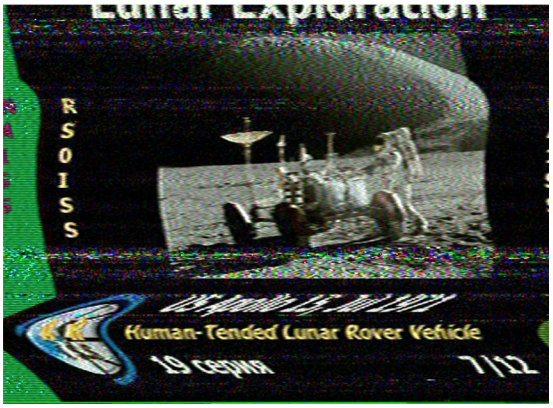
Once you have a firm understanding of receiving satellite SSTV images, knowing when a particular satellite will pass is critical. ARISS publishes a simple to use real-time tracking website from the European Space Agency. Orbitron is a downloadable application from a Polish ham and that also works very well.

Next you will need SSTV decoding software. Two applications I read about are MMSSTV by JE3HHT and RX-SSTV by ON6MU. Both are highly recommended, but I found RX-SSTV easier to set up including the sound mixer settings, so that is what I used.

Initially, I used my Yaesu HT with a quarter wave whip antenna. The results were marginal at best. *(see image below)*



Next I switched to my Yaesu mobile radio and a better antenna. The results were much better, but still not perfect. *(image below)*



Next time, I plan to be better prepared by starting earlier and having a backup available, such as my SDR-RTL dongle. Also a better antenna is in order, maybe I will build a turnstyle antenna. All-in-all this was a fun experiment and one that I will definitely try again.

We can all learn by sharing with others.

73, The Antenna Alchemist

ARISS SSTV AWARD

Not only is capturing SSTV images from the International Space Station (ISS) a lot of fun, those who are successful can also receive a certificate commemorating their success.

Treasure Coast Ham News salutes local ham John, KK4SHF, for successfully capturing multiple SSTV images from the ISS during December. One of John's images is displayed in the *Antenna Alchemist* article on the previous page of this newsletter.

We also congratulate John on receiving the certificate shown below acknowledging his participation and success in December's SSTV event. Way to go, John!

What is the difference between… ?

Scientific Principles, Scientific Fact, Scientific Theory, & Opinions

Separating Facts from Myth is only possible if you first understand the difference between Scientific Principles, Facts, Theories and just opinions. To understand the science of HF it is important for us to understand the differences. Some of the world's top scientists have broken down the difference for us. Here is what they tell us.

Scientific principles or laws are at the top of the list. They are above scientific facts because they have never been found to be wrong. Principles or laws are elevated above scientific facts because extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence. Examples of scientific laws include: Ohms Law, Laws of Thermodynamics, Newton's laws of Motion, Archimedes Buoyancy Principle, Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle, and more.

Scientific Facts require observation and must be repeatable to be classified as a fact. Example: If an idea can not be observed or repeated it can be a theory, but not a scientific fact.

The difference between a scientific principle and a scientific fact is that around 50% of Scientific Facts have later been found to be wrong or lacking accurate data. The reason for this is because the process of observation and repeatability does not insure that all of the "variables" have been introduced into the equation. Many times when additional variables are found the fact crumbles and becomes a non-fact.

When does a Fact get elevated to a Principle? This is often up for a stiff debate, but most agree that the main ingredient is time. I have noticed that some principles have stood the test of time for well over 100 years and are still found to be true with no exceptions. Often it takes that long or longer for all of the variables to be discovered and measured.

When does a Scientific Theory get elevated to Scientific Fact? A theory may be supported by math, but not as of yet been observed or repeated. An example is the Big Bang theory. Most people do not know that six (6) Big Bang theories exist. But as you have guessed, only a maximum of one (1) of them can be correct. The fact that six (6) big bang theories exist explains why observation and repeatability is a requirement to be elevated to fact, and then possibly later to Principle.

With all due credit, people working on a theory are mostly honest about it being a theory by keeping the word "theory" in its name. Additionally they are working on the math and other research. It is that hard work that eventually brings us scientific facts.

Opinions are only a view that is not based on fact or knowledge. The best line that I have ever heard was from a physics professor In Michigan (Dr. James Mc Laughlin) who stated that "Opinions are from people who are too lazy to research the facts." Then he said… Yes we are entitled to our opinions, but please don't confuse opinions with an honest effort to find the facts. I was young when I sat in his class and his statement changed my way of thinking. I thank him for that.

Myths travel faster than facts. This causes more people to hear the myth than the scientific fact. Perhaps that is because myths are usually easer to explain than facts. Why? Because scientific facts usually involve using deep math. The only communication between man and science is math. Math is inconvenient for many, therefore Myths become easer and quicker to spread.

It is not your fault if you have been guided by a myth. Most likely you are a victim who got the myth from someone else. Likewise, don't think poorly of the person who told you the myth, as he/she was a victim just like you.

(continued on page 17)

What is the difference between?

Scientific principles, Scientific Fact, Scientific Theory, & Opinions

(continued from page 16)

How do you protect yourself from myths? When someone is explaining something technical to you, ask him/her to explain the supporting math. If they don't have the math, then they do not have a reliable understanding of the issue either. They are not trying to harm you, they are a victim too. Protect yourself by finding someone that can explain it fully by including the math.

So what is the cure for myth control? The first step is to stop being a victim and stop victimizing others. Before you pass on technical information, ask yourself, "Can I explain this mathematically?" If not, admit it to yourself and pause before you try to educate someone else.

Remind yourself that science communicates to us **only** through math. When you pass on ham radio science, be sure to communicate the math with the science. That is the cure for (high speed) traveling myths.

You are probably not alone if you do not understand the math behind scientific principles. Be curious about ham radio science. When a topic is important to you, ask your club leaders to explain the math at the next club meeting, thus letting science communicate with you through math.

Fact versus Myth - We will be separating many "Facts v Myths" in upcoming articles. One example: Are tuners only a transmitter fooler? **Myth or fact**? We will look at this science next month.

73, Bruce, W8HW (w8hw@comcast.net)

KH1, KH3, KH5, & KH9 News

On December 21, 2021 the Federal Register published a request from NOAA and the USFWS for comments and input regarding an upcoming new Monument Management Plan for the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. The Monument encompasses approximately 495,189 square miles (1,282,534 square kilometers) in the central Pacific Ocean. It includes seven islands and atolls: Baker, Howland, and Jarvis Island; Johnston, Wake, and Palmyra Atoll; and Kingman Reef. The plan is of concern to the amateur radio community. Don, N1DG

You can read the document and instructions for submitting comments here: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/12/21/2021-27535/pacific-remote-islands-marine-national-monument-monument-management-plan

Don, N1DG, is the Citizen at Large representative — NOAA/USFWS Community Group. More information on the group can be found here: https://www.fws.gov/refuge/pacific_remote_islands_national_marine_monument/PRIMNM-Community.html

Unfortunately, we have no updates to report concerning the 2x4 HF-DX Group.

Treasure Coast Ham News continues to receive emails from hams around the region asking when meetings might resume.

Group leaders tell us they are ready to restart meetings. Unfortunately, the old meeting facility no longer available; and they've had no success in finding a new location where the group can meet once or twice a month.

If you know of a location where the group can meet, please let us know. We also want your opinion as to the best time and day of week to hold in-person meetings? Share your ideas, thoughts and opinions about restarting the 2X4 HF-DX Group. Send an email to us at tchamnews@gmail.com, with the subject: 2x4 HF-DX.

Help us get the 2x4 HF-DX Group reactivated! Please consider joining the group.

From the weekly ***ARRL DX Bulletin*** and other sources. (bulletin archive)

DX OPPORTUNITIES

SENEGAL, 6W. Jacques, F6HMJ will be QRV as 6W7/F6HMJ from December 29 to February 22, 2022. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Tom, OE1TRI will be QRV as 8Q7TR from South Ari Atoll, IOTA AS-013, from December 28 to January 3, 2022. Activity will be holiday style on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL to home call.

JAPAN, JA. Take, JI3DST will be QRV as JI3DST/6, JJ5RBH/6 and JS6RRR/6 from Tanega Island, IOTA AS-032, from December 25 to January 10, 2022. Activity will be on 80 to 2 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, FM, FT8 and FT4. QSL to home call.

MACEDONIA, Z3. Michael, DF8AN will be QRV as Z38/DF8AN from Skopje from December 29 to January 5, 2022. QSL via operator's instructions.

INDONESIA, YB. Special event stations 7B2C, 7B2E, 7B2T, 7B2H and 7B2O are QRV until the end of October 2022 to celebrate the Javanese-Hindu Ceto Temple that was built in 1475. Activity is on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via operators' instructions.

ZAMBIA, 9J. Mario, IK1MYT is QRV as 9J2MYT from Lusaka until June 2022. Activity is on 40, 20, 17, 15, and 10 meters. QSL direct to IZ3KVD.

THAILAND, HS. Brad, VK2BY will be QRV as HS0ZNR from the Nam Yuen district from December 12 to January 21. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters. QSL direct to home call.

ANTARCTICA. Sebastian, SQ1SGB is QRV as VP8/SQ1SGB while working on the Halley VIa Base until the end of January 2022. Activity is in his spare time on 40 meters using SSB. QSL via EB7DX.

DX SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

ENGLAND, G. Members of the Denby Dale Amateur Radio Society will be QRV with special calls GB0HNY, GB1HNY, GB2HNY, GB4HNY, GB5HNY, GB6HNY, GB8HNY, and GB9HNY from December 28 to January 24, 2022, to celebrate the New Year 2022. QSL via operators' instructions.

JAPAN, JA. Members of the radio club in the city of Tama are QRV as 8N1TAMA until the end of June 2022 to mark their city's 50th anniversary. Activity is on 160 meters to 70 centimeters using CW, SSB and FM. QSL via bureau.

POLAND, SP. Members of club station SP4PZM are QRV with special event call SO39SYBIR until Feb 2022 to mark the opening of the Sybir Memorial Museum in Bialystok. Activity on HF bands using CW, SSB, and digital modes. QSL via SP4PZM.

BELGIUM, ON. Look for 64 special event stations to use the ON75 prefix from January 1 to February 28, 2022, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the establishment of Belgium's National IARU Society. QSL via operators' instructions.

EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA. Special event stations R2022NY, R22HNY, RA22NY, RG22NY, RJ22NY, RK22NY, RL22NY, RM22NY, RO22NY, RQ22NY, RT22NY, RW22NY, RX22NY, and RY22NY will be QRV from December 25 to January 14, 2022, for the Russian New Year 2022 radio marathon. QSL via RQ7L.

* * * * *

SPOILER ALERT. On December 9, 10 and 11 MN0JQS/Z2E was very active on FT8. The corrected call is MN0JQS/2ZE in Northern Ireland, not in Zimbabwe.

(Know of an upcoming DX station or Special Event? Send info to: tchamnews@gmail.com)

Special Event Stations

American Revolution - Battle of Princeton Jan 1-Jan 9 0000Z-2359Z

W2P, Trenton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association. 14.250. Certificate & QSL: DVRA, P.O. Box 7024, Trenton, NJ 08628. Info at www.w2zq.com or on qrz.com. QSL with SASE. Certificate of Commission in the Continental Army Signal Corps for address label and $5 payable to DVRA, mailed to DVRA, PO Box 7024, West Trenton NJ 08628. www.w2zq.com

16th Annual Straight Key Event

Jan 2-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, K3Y/0-9 +, worldwide. SKCC - Straight Key Century Club. 3.550, 7.055, 14.050, 21.050. Certificate & QSL: SKCC c/o Jeremy Downard - K8JAD, 511 W. Pottawatamie St., Tecumseh, MI 49286. K3Y/0 thru 9 plus KH6, KL7, KP4 and DX member stations in six WAC areas operating straight key, bug and cootie keys. QSL card confirms one QSO per area, up to 19 for all-area sweep. See URL for op sched, map, stats, etc. https://www.skccgroup.com/k3y

"The 415" Amateur Radio Club

Jan 15, 1800Z-2300Z, N9WH, Crystal Lake, IL. The 415 Amateur Radio Club. 7.250, 14.250, 146.415. QSL: The 415 Amateur Radio Club, 3208 Bay Rd, Crystal Lake, IL 60012. N9WH known as the "White House" Distinctive QSL. QSL information at www.qrz.com/db/n9wh.

WHOA weekend, Scouts BSA

Jan 15, 1400Z-2000Z, W1M, Russell, MA. Western Mass Council, Scouts BSA. 7.190, 10.115, 14.060, 14.290. QSL: Tom Barker, WA1HRH, 329 Faraway Road, Whitefield, NH 03598. Camp/outdoor program that introduces young people to various season related activities, including outdoor skills and some STEM activities. Paper logging, eQSL and SASE for QSL card.

80th Anniversary of the 8th Air Force

Jan 19-Jan 24, 0400Z-0359Z, WW2FLY, Attica, NY. WWII Flying Fortress Amateur Radio Club. 1.900, 3.850, 7.180, 14.250. Certificate & QSL: WWII Flying Fortress Amateur Radio Club, 3339 Stroh Rd, Attica, NY 14011. SSB and FT8 Check spotting networks to find us on HF. More info at www.qrz.com/db/WW2FLY.

Silent Key Memorial Weekend

Jan 21-Jan 23, 0000Z-2359Z, K5D/KF5UPC, Alice, TX. Coastal Band Digital Group and South Texas Amateur Radio Club. 14.265, 7.265. Certificate: Pedro Saenz, Jr., 611 Schley, Alice, TX 78332. Remembering those who passed on. Our Silent Keys will never be forgotten. pedrojr45@yahoo.com or https://m.facebook.com/784535814939833

MRAC 105th Anniversary

Jan 22, 1000Z-1700Z, W9RH, Milwaukee, WI. Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club. 7.250, 14.250, 145.390. Certificate: MRAC Special Event, PO Box 26938, Milwaukee, WI 53226. Operating W9RH. (CQ MRAC). One of America's oldest amateur radio clubs celebrating 105 years of continuous operation. Visit our website for operating frequencies (HF, VHF, WIRES-X) and certificate information. Station will be operating from HRO-Milwaukee. For more information, visit W9RH.org. https://www.w9rh.org

Quartzfest

Jan 22-Jan 29, 1400Z-0700Z, W7Q, San Luis, AZ. Quartzfest. 7.277 +/- 20khz, 14.285 +/- 20khz. 28.415 +/- 20khz, 14.076 +/- 20khz, 7.074 +/- 20khz, 28.074 +/- 20khz, 21.74 +/- 20khz. Certificate: Tom Luther, 7690 W Derry rd, Kirkland, AZ 86332. https://quartzfest.org

California Discovery of Gold

Jan 29-Jan 31, 1600Z-0001Z, AG6AU, Coloma, CA. El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club. 7.248, 14.248, 21.348, 28.348. QSL. El Dorado County ARC, P.O. Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667. 174th anniversary of the discovery of gold in Coloma, California starting the 49'er gold rush. edcarc.net

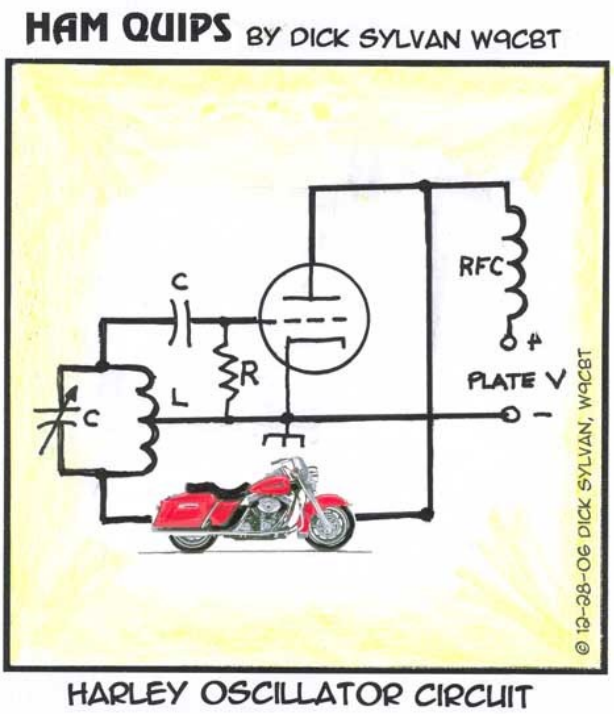
EARS (Ellijay Amateur Radio Society) 25th Anniversary

Feb 5-Feb 13, 1500Z-2300Z, W4HHH, Ellijay, GA. Ellijay Amateur Radio Society (EARS). 14.171 7.171. Certificate & QSL.: Ellijay Amateur Radio Society, 78 N Garrett Branch Road, Ellijay, GA 30536. W4HHH will transmit on 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 40, 80 & 160 meter bands off and on throughout the 9 days of the event. The certificate will indicate which of the several operators are contracted and, hopefully, participants will try for a clean sweep and contact all EARS operators. w4hhh.org

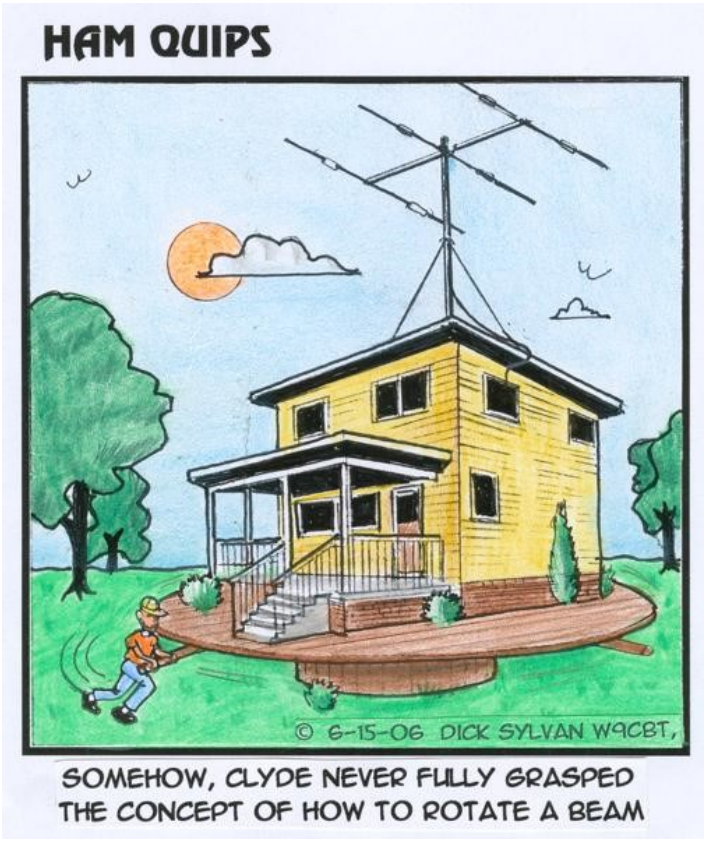
(From ARRL & other sources)

Ham Humor

(This month's cartoons are courtesy of Dick Sylvan, W9CBT. Thanks, Dick, for allowing us to share them!)



HARLEY OSCILLATOR CIRCUIT



SOMEHOW, CLYDE NEVER FULLY GRASPED THE CONCEPT OF HOW TO ROTATE A BEAM

About Dick Sylvan, W9CBT: Dick was first licensed 74 years ago. Besides being an experienced ham radio operator Dick is also a skilled artist, having drawn over 200 Amateur Radio related cartoons. In 2005 Dick published a collection of some of his earliest cartoons in the book, "***Hi Hi - A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons***." Dick's book can be purchased from Lulu.com. Click here for a link to the book.

TREASURE COAST HAM NEWS

The editors like to reserve the last couple pages of ***Treasure Coast Ham News*** for you, the readers. With your help these pages will include:

For Sale Section – Have something to sell or trade? Send us a description and/or picture to have it listed in this section. Looking to buy something? Provide a description and we will print it.

QSL Card Section – Many hams enjoy viewing QSL cards, especially those with colorful pictures. Send us scans of your favorite QSL cards. Maybe the first card you ever received. Or perhaps your favorite card, or your personal card. We will include some in each issue as space permits.

The last few newsletter pages are yours. Help make them a success by submitting your photos, For Sale listings and QSL cards to tchamnews@gmail.com.

Want to be published? Treasure Coast Ham News invites you to write about your ham radio activities, kit building, DX operations, or any other amateur radio subject. You don't need to be a polished writer, or a writer at all for that matter. We will help you edit your work. While we don't pay for articles, you will receive a full byline. Please contact us at: tchamnews@gmail.com.

Coming in Future Newsletters

Articles planned for coming issues of *Treasure Coast Ham News* include:

- *A look back at the year 2021*
- *More information for new hams*
- *Ham Radio History continues*
- *FT-8 DXing with Hamstick style mobile antennas*
- *Ferrite Cores—what and how to use*
- *Beginner's Guide to making CW contacts*

Area Club News

Port St. Lucie Amateur Radio Association

Membership is open to all who have interest in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed amateur operator. An application form is available at pslara.com under the "***Contact Us***" tab. The club meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Presently, meetings are held via ZOOM. See the web site for meeting details.

The first meeting of 2022 will be held via Zoom at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, January 26, 2022. Members and visitors are encouraged to participate in the meeting. Watch for an announcement later this month containing connection information.

Fort Pierce Amateur Radio Club

FPARC is a general purpose club involved in all aspects of amateur radio. The club normally meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month on the Main Campus of Indian River State College in Fort Pierce. Watch for email announcements concerning upcoming meetings and events. Additional details are available on the club's web site.

Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club

VBARC was formed in November, 1961 with just a handful of local hams. Today, it includes all of Indian River County. The club now counts over 100 members and continues to grow. **The club is sponsoring a 2022 Winter Field day event.**

Martin County Amateur Radio Association

MCARA serves the Martin County, Fl amateur radio community and supports county ECOMM through ARES. Among other activities, MCARA holds weekly Rag Chew nets, ARES nets and meetings, and monthly association meetings. The association also sponsors the yearly Stuart Hamfest.

MCARA participates in various operating events during the year. Watch the club web site and participate in their nets to learn more.

Repeaters and Club Nets

The Treasure Coast is blessed with a multitude of repeaters. Each club holds a weekly rag chew net on one or more of their repeaters. Schedules for the nets are available on most club web sites. Also check the calendar in this newsletter for net schedules. There is at least one net almost every evening. Get on the air and participate!

Dues Reminder

It's dues time in most area clubs. Support your local club. If you have not already done so, please pay your 2022 dues. The club's need your support.

(Attention club officers: Please send an email announcing upcoming events and activities to: tchamnews@gmail.com. Send by the 20th of the month to be included in the next issue.)

HAM RADIO EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

BY ORIGINAL OWNER - Create Extra Heavy Duty Antenna Rotator – Model RC5A-3 and preset control box. Includes mounting hardware and factory manual. Rated for antenna up to 20 sq. ft. Test/Demo cable included. See EHAM.NET Reviews for info. $495.00 or Best Offer.

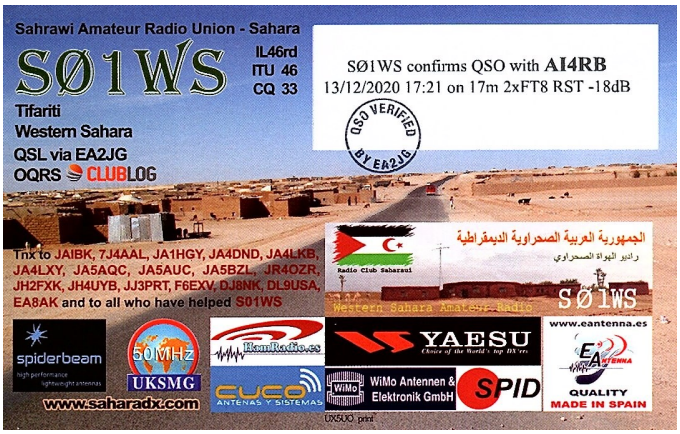
ORIGINAL NON-SMOKING OWNER - YAESU FT1000 HF XCVR 160-10M. 200 WATTS with factory options (DVS-2 voice keyer, MHI-B8 hand microphone) and service manual. Has factory shipping box. $795.00 or Best Offer. **Yaesu FT-1000 Specifications & Manual**

Contact BOB, W7MAE, (772) 444-5845, or email w7mae@aol.com

QSL Cards

TCHamNews enjoys publishing QSL cards received by our local amateur radio community. If you have an interesting QSL card to share with your fellow hams, please send a scanned image (jpeg) to TCHamNews@gmail.com and we will include it in an upcoming issue. *(If you send us a paper card, we will scan it and send the original back to you.)*

:TU:3 CQ:4 Grid:EN54cg Wood County



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