



# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

*Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club*

## JUNE 2001

<http://www.barconline.org>

# Kick Off To Summer Activities

## SOME UPCOMMING EVENTS

- June 9 VE Test Session**  
8:00 a.m. At Campbell Scientific. See page 2.
- June 9 Biathlon**  
Run and Bicycle race in Wellsville  
For info contact Russ Tarbott KJ7UP  
Phone: 563-5026
- June 23 Pony Express**  
Horse race and goings on in Clarkston  
For info contact Khalil Godfrey WA7SHW  
Phone: 563-5812
- June 23-24 Field Day**  
For additional info see page 3
- July 7 Cache Valley Cruise In**
- July 11 - August 22 Training class at BATC**  
See May Ohm Town News Pg. 5
- July 13-15 Hamfest—Ruby's Inn**  
See April Ohm Town News Pg. 1
- August Cache Classic**
- September 15 LOTOJA Bicycle Race**  
The famous Logan To Jackson bicycle race
- September 22 Top Of Utah Marathon**  
Foot race from Hardware Ranch in Blacksmith  
Fork Canyon to Merlin Olson Park in Logan
- September Bear 100**
- October 20-21 JOTA**
- To sign up to help with events or for additional info contact:  
Tyler Griffiths N7UWX Phone: 752-7269  
or check the web site: [www.barconline.org](http://www.barconline.org)

## HAM PROFILE

By Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

Ever wondered who organizes, begs, borrows, steals, worries about, and otherwise puts together a field day activity? This year as in the past, the blast looks like another good one. A big grunt behind the dust this year is one of our stalwarts, the club repeater chairman, by the name of Ted McArthur, AC7II, hiding on the left in the picture. Ted picked up his first license back in 77 as WN7EXQ, then migrated to WB7EXQ, and finally with a recent extra update, answers to AC7II from the metropolis of Paradise.

Ted sports a Tempo 1 rig, one of the new Yaesu FT100s in the family Bentz, a three element Moseley at home, a 13 element for 2, and a couple of other sky wires. You ought to take a peek at that new



rig in the car, it's something different. Reception clear up into the Ghz region and emissions from the insects down on the low end.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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*(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)*

Ted was born in the sunshine state, California, in Riverside to be exact. He graduated from LaSierra HS, went to the DeVry tech school in Phoenix for a year and a half. I suspect he may have gotten bitten by the electronics bug here somewhere along the line. He mentioned an Uncle who happened to be a HAM, back in the 60s who along with some others of the fraternity in CA, some were astronomers as well, who were observing some rather unusual flashes of light from the moon. The phenomenon was fairly well documented, however NASA didn't get interested until the ham fraternity convinced them there was something serious and unexplainable going on. Not sure what the consensus was on that one, other than little green men shining their laser beams at earth. Ted was impressed; he had to get his fingers in the pie.

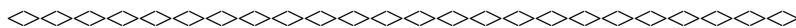
He worked for a period at Hughes in ElSegundo, then Bourns in Riverside where he made a couple of trips to the Emerald Isle for the Co. He then transferred up to the Bourns Facility here in Logan in 83, where he worked till 92.

He presently is involved in working for Auto Liv in Tremonton. If you have ever wondered what makes the air bags in your jalopy hit you in the snoot when you hit something hard, its due to the efforts of Ted and his associates. To condense a rather scientific and interesting treatise on that subject down into something our editor can cram onto a page or so, here it is. Take about 1/10 to 3/10 of a gram of Zirconium Potassium Perchlorate, ignite it in something like 7 milliseconds, with a rather complex ignition system and the solid changes to a gas right now, and blows out of it's canister. That's before your noggin would normally dent the steering wheel or dashboard. Designers are now installing the things on the doors and other locations to protect the unsuspecting front seat occupants from some terrible impacts.

He has three boys, oldest 11 and studying for the next test. Atta Boy.

A word of advice, at field day, don't drop any of the rigs on the deck!!!!!! Something or someone might hit you in the face.

Good trick Ted.



## **VE Test Session**

**Coming up at 8:00 a.m. on June 9, 2001**

**All tests given, walk-ins welcome**

**At Campbell Scientific Inc.**

**815 West 1800 North**

**Logan, Utah**

**(Room directions will be provided inside the building)**

**For information contact: Clyde Best AC7KN**

**381 S Main St, Smithfield, UT 84335**

**Phone: (435) 563-9492**

# Field Day June 23-24

## Cache Valley Mall



Here are some pictures from last years Field Day.

Field day is almost upon us again, and this year is going to be great! It will be held on June 23-24<sup>th</sup>, and this year it will be held in the parking lot at the Cache Valley Mall. This will allow us to show off our hobby to the general public and hopefully generate interest.

The contest runs for 24 hours starting Saturday at 12:00 pm. We will be setting up the tent on Friday night, and then early on Saturday morning we will begin setting up antennas, radios, etc. Everyone is invited to come and help. We will be operating all 24 hours of the contest, and you are welcome to camp in the Parking Lot if you like. Bring warm clothes, as it will get cold at night. If you don't have the Licenses to work HF we will have control Operators available so that you can. 50 MHz and down is whole different ball game, so come catch the High Frequency Bug. Lets try to W.A.S. (Work All States). Everyone is

welcome, both hams and general public.

We will be located east of Cal Ranch in the big army tent. There will be a lot of other emergency related demos going on at the mall that day such as fire and medical squads, Life Flight helicopter, live fire demos, home safety, and us. We will fit in quite well with this group, as the purpose of Field day is to exercise the emergency capability of the ham community. This is to make sure we can put it together in a real disaster.

On Saturday evening at or around 7:30 the club will provide hamburgers with the buns and the relishes and cheese. The rest is potluck so you will need to bring plates, utensils, and any salads, drinks or desserts you want.

Thanks  
The Field-day Committee



**==>NEVADA GOVERNOR SIGNS AMATEUR ANTENNA BILL**

Nevada Gov Kenny Guinn has signed that state's Amateur Radio antenna legislation—Assembly Bill 61. The law goes into effect October 1.

"I would like to commend everyone who assisted on this effort," said Nevada Assemblyman Bob Beers, WB7EHN, the bill's author and sponsor. "The grass roots support for this bill was key to its passage and enactment, and the subject of awed comments in both houses." The measure cleared the state Senate on a unanimous vote and went to the Governor this week for his signature.

The measure will incorporate the wording of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into the Nevada Revised Statutes. Introduced by Beers in February, AB 61 will require municipal ordinances to "reasonably accommodate amateur service communications" and "constitute the minimum level of regulation practicable to carry out the legitimate purpose of the governing body." The bill would not apply to historic or architectural preservation districts.

As originally worded, the legislation also would have applied to future deed covenants, conditions and restrictions imposed by homeowners' associations. That language was stripped from the bill in committee, but the rest of the measure survived intact.

Nevada Assistant ARRL Section Manager Dick Flanagan, W6OLD, expressed his gratitude to the state's amateur community for the bill's success. "We have achieved passage of AB61 only through your efforts!" he said.

Nevada is the 13<sup>th</sup> state to incorporate PRB-1 language into its statutes. "I can't imagine a more natural state to acquire the Number 13 distinction than Nevada—a state world renowned for beating the odds!" Flanagan said. Amateur Radio antenna bills also were approved this year in Alaska and Idaho, and similar measures are pending in New York and Wisconsin.

Updated information on the Nevada PRB-1 legislation is available at the Carson Valley Radio Club Web site, <http://www.cvrc.net/ab61/>. The full text of AB 61 is available on the Nevada State Web site, <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/71st/bills/AB/AB61.html>.

**==>TWO ARRL SECTIONS TO GET NEW SECTION MANAGERS**

New section managers will take office July 1 in the Maryland-DC and Northern New Jersey ARRL sections. Incumbent section managers were re-elected in six other sections.

The only contested race was in Rhode Island, where incumbent SM Armand E. Lambert, K1FLD, held off a challenge from Ellis H. Maris Jr, W3PDK, 180 to 123. Votes were counted this week at ARRL Headquarters.

In Maryland-DC, Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, will succeed Bill Howard, WB3V, who decided not to run for another term. An Advanced licensee from Accokeek, Maryland, Abernethy, 49, has field appointments as an Emergency Coordinator, Official Emergency Station, Official Bulletin Station and Official Relay Station.

In Northern New Jersey, William Hudzik, W2UDT, of Gillette, will succeed Jeffrey Friedman, K3JF, who did not seek another term. Hudzik, 54, holds an Extra Class ticket. He serves as a volunteer examiner and also volunteers in the QSL bureau.

Incumbent section managers reelected without opposition were Jan Welsh, NK7N, Nevada; Al Shuman, N1FIK, New Hampshire; Donald W. Costello, W7WN, San Joaquin Valley; Mel Parkes, AC7CP, Utah; and Clay Emert, K5TRW, West Texas.

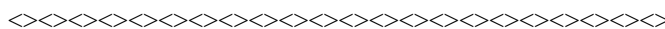
All terms are for two years.

**==>Canada makes 5 WPM official**

Canadian Basic operators with 5 WPM credit now have full HF Amateur Radio privileges. Effective May 19, Industry Canada has amended the Technical Requirements set out in the Radiocommunication Information Circular 2, "Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service." The IC grants full operating privileges in all Amateur Radio frequency bands below 30 MHz to operators holding the Basic plus 5 WPM Morse code qualification. Copies of the revised RIC-2 are available from the Industry Canada Web site, <http://strategis.gc.ca/SSG/sf01226e.html>. —RAC

**==>FCC reiterates license renewal and modification basics**

The FCC took advantage of the Dayton Hamvention FCC forum to remind Amateur Service licensees that license renewal and modification now is done via the Universal Licensing System—or ULS. The ULS is accessible via the FCC ULS Web site, <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>. Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau noted that Amateur Radio licenses may not be renewed any sooner than 90 days prior to license expiration. When only changing an address, he said, licensees should choose the "Administrative Update" (AU) option. When renewing only, he said, choose "Renewal Only" (RO). To change an address while renewing your license within the 90-day window, select the "Renewal/Modification" option. An application requesting renewal that's outside the 90-day window will be dismissed, Cross said. Modifications no longer automatically result in a new ten-year license term. Call sign changes are not made unless requested by the licensee. Cross said amateur applicants needing assistance or who believe they have made an error on an application they've filed should contact the ULS help desk, [ulshelp@fcc.gov](mailto:ulshelp@fcc.gov).



Answers to questions on page 6:  
1-D, 2-C, 3-C, 4-C 5-C

### ==>ARRL ASKS FCC TO INVESTIGATE LONG-RANGE CORDLESS TELEPHONE SALES

The ARRL has asked the FCC to investigate and “take appropriate action” against several companies it alleges have been marketing so-called “long-range cordless telephones” via the Internet. The ARRL took the action in the wake of an interference complaint and numerous reports from the amateur community about sales of the devices, some operating on amateur VHF and UHF frequencies.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said the League was seeking the FCC probe because the apparently uncertificated devices operate on amateur bands and are capable of interfering with amateur communication. He also noted that the devices are not likely to meet maximum permissible exposure levels for RF.

“ARRL has not been able to locate any FCC certification for these devices and, based on the advertised frequency bands and ranges, it is believed that none of these devices could be certificated, or legally marketed or sold, under FCC rules,” Imlay wrote. The League said some of the companies may be selling similar wireless products that may operate on amateur or restricted bands.

The letter was addressed to FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief David Solomon as well as to Raymond LaForge of the FCC’s Office of Engineering and Technology’s Equipment Authorization Division and to FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth.

Imlay said the ARRL also is looking into the marketing of products such as 434-MHz video surveillance equipment and other “apparently non-certificated devices” that use amateur frequencies but are being marketed in the US to non-amateurs.

The ARRL was able to obtain one of the long-distance cordless telephones for testing. The device, made in China and bearing no FCC identification number or label, operates near 147 MHz with an output power greater than 3 W. Other such phones are advertised as having ranges of up to 100 km operating at power levels of up to 35 W on VHF and UHF.

ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, said he’s received at least one report of actual harmful interference from a long-range cordless telephone to amateur communication. The amateur reporting it tracked the telephone to the home of a neighbor, who said he’d bought the device on eBay.

Hare said some long-range devices are legally certificated to operate on the 900 MHz or 2450 MHz Part 15 bands. Hare invited reports of unlicensed devices causing actual harmful interference to Amateur Radio operation to [rfi@arrl.org](mailto:rfi@arrl.org).

### ==>AMSAT PRESIDENT LAUDS AO-40 SUCCESS, LOOKS TOWARD NEW PROJECT

With a modicum of success already assured for the troubled Phase 3D/AO-40 project, AMSAT-NA President Robin Haighton, VE3FRH, says his organization already is looking toward its next bird. Haighton said AMSAT’s newest satellite project could be up and running within three years, possibly sooner.

In an interview with the ARRL, Haighton lauded the “fantastic reports” and “great worldwide coverage” of the AO-40 satellite. Until this week AO-40 had operated its transponders in an experimental mode with uplinks at 435 MHz and 1.2 GHz and a downlink and beacons in the 2.4 GHz band.

AO-40 ground controllers have shut down the satellite’s transponders in preparation for raising AO-40’s perigee by about 200 km. AMSAT-DL President and AO-40 team member Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, said transponders will remain off “until further notice.” The RUDAK beacon and the 2.4 GHz middle beacon will remain up, however.

Haighton said this week that it’s hoped the a slightly higher perigee will eliminate the effects of what he described as “a mysterious force” that alters the satellite’s attitude when it comes through perigee.

While AMSAT continues dealing with AO-40, Haighton said it’s also looking ahead to its next satellite, and design work is expected to get under way in earnest by this summer. “We would like people in apartments to have access to satellites with relatively small, easy compact equipment and not have to swing large antennas around,” he said. “We’re looking at our next satellite to provide that.”

As plans now stand, the new satellite would—at least in a pinch—accommodate VHF users with omnidirectional antennas at perigee, plus users with good antennas at UHF as well as L band and S band. It also might employ digital modulation capabilities that, Haighton said, could make the new satellite “probably at least 10 dB better than anything we’re currently using.”

Like AO-40, the new satellite will not be a low-Earth-orbiting bird but have an elliptical orbit that Haighton said would be “very very similar to the current AO-40 orbit.” The configuration would provide up to 17 hours or so of usage out of every 24.

“What we’re actually looking at is a new class of satellite,” Haighton explained. For the time being, the new satellite is going under the name “Project JJ” after the two people who came up with the idea—Lyle Johnson, KK7P, and Dick Jansson, WD4FAB.

“We’ve already started contacting launch agencies,” Haighton said. He added that “a major design weekend” was set for July, and he expressed confidence that the new project could reach fruition “on the outside three years from now.”

## Questions for General Class License

1.(G1A03) What are the frequency limits for General class operators in the 40-meter band (ITU Region 2)?

- A. 7025 - 7175-kHz and 7200 - 7300-kHz
- B. 7025 - 7175-kHz and 7225 - 7300-kHz
- C. 7025 - 7150-kHz and 7200 - 7300-kHz
- D. 7025 - 7150-kHz and 7225 - 7300-kHz

2.(G1B01) Up to what height above the ground may you install an antenna structure without needing FCC approval unless your station is in close proximity to an airport as defined in the FCC Rules?

- A. 50 feet
- B. 100 feet
- C. 200 feet
- D. 300 feet

3.(G1C10) What is the absolute maximum transmitting power a General class amateur may use on 28.150 MHz?

- A. 200 watts PEP output
- B. 1000 watts PEP output

- C. 1500 watts PEP output
- D. 2000 watts PEP output

4.(G0D10) For best RF safety for driver and passengers, where should the antenna of a mobile VHF transceiver be mounted?

- A. On the right side of a metal rear bumper
- B. On the left side of a metal rear bumper
- C. In the center of a metal roof
- D. On the top-center of the rear window glass

5.(G0E07) Why does a dummy antenna provide an RF safe environment for transmitter adjusting?

- A. The dummy antenna carries the RF energy far away from the station before releasing it
- B. The RF energy is contained in a halo around the outside of the dummy antenna
- C. The RF energy is not radiated from a dummy antenna, but is converted to heat
- D. The dummy antenna provides a perfect match to the antenna feed impedance

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## *June, 2001*

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(Note: The Ohm Town News will take a break for the summer; the next issue will be September)

