



THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

APRIL 2002

HAM PROFILE

By Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

April 1st has just passed, the editor has his back turned, I have an irresistible urge to touch upon a subject dear to our hearts. The Fraternity we belong to is like no other that I am aware of. We see all sorts of Societies, clubs, organizations, and philanthropic groups who do all sorts of things and require various qualifications for affiliation. I would submit that the ingenuity, fellowship, and universality of a common interest with the Amateur Fraternity, is unique and worldwide in scope.

May I share some thoughts and experiences which illustrate the point, realizing that each one of you may easily add many such similar instances.

Torino Italy will be the next host of the winter Olympics in 2006. A sudden recall flashed across my mind. With me, that is somewhat of a spectacle. My very first contact on 10 meters back in 47, as my up stairs memory states, was a crisp reply to a CQ, my first attempt. Back came a crystal clear response from IACE, Francesco Giuseppe Battagino in Torino, Italy. I just about ate the microphone! He must have realized that I was a greenie, however in broken English he soon put me at ease. We literally became great friends over 30 minutes time. He wouldn't let go, until band conditions did the job for us. His sincerity and attitude made the difference, he knew what I was experiencing. His QSL was a prized possession.

I took my HT, twin lead j-pole and 20' of RG58U coax with me during an 18 month stay in Australia in 91-92. I inquired about a reciprocal license. "No worry they said, front up with \$35, your current license, and there you go". I did and they did and out I walked with a VE3BOY call. We wound up in a small farming community in western Victoria. Logically there shouldn't be a ham within a hundred miles. Wrong!! Before two weeks I had made the acquaint-

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Presidents Message

In February I said the Olympics are coming. Well the Olympics have come and gone! I had the opportunity to volunteer for the Olympics as did many hams from our club, and it was a great experience. All though it was quite boring, that was good because of what our main role was. The main reason the hams were asked to help UOPSC (Utah Olympic Safety Command) was for emergency communication back up. And yes, they asked us, we did not ask them. The idea was that if there were a terrorist attack that they would most likely knock out their communications and that they would be concerned about the public safety radio system and hopefully not think about the ham radio repeater network. Thankfully no major events occurred, but the hams did stay busy running other radios and the closed circuit security video systems. It was an interesting experience working with the Secret Service, US Marshals National Guard and the Salt Lake City Police. It gave you a view that not many people get to see. I hope that all the good work that the Amateur Radio Community did for the Olympics will make some good in-roads for the future of emergency communications! So if you want to hear some good stories, ask any ham that got to help with the Olympics!

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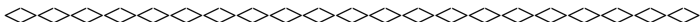
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Upcoming Events for 2002

Cache Classic	May 24-27
Mountain Man Rendezvous	May
Cache Valley Biathlon	June
Mud Flat Country Bike Race	June
All Women Bike Tour	June
Little Mt. Bike Race	June
Field Day	June 22-23
Pony Express	June 28
Utah Hamfest	July 12-14
Cache Cruise In	July
Up the Dam Hill Bike Race	July
LOTOJA	Sept
Top of Utah Marathon	Sept
Bear 100	Sept
JOTA	October



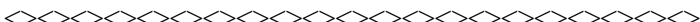
VE Test Session

Coming up at 8:00 a.m. on June 8, 2002

At Campbell Scientific Inc.

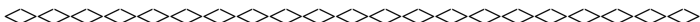
815 West 1800 North

Logan, Utah



Answers to questions on page 6:

1-C, 2-D, 3-B, 4-B, 5-A



(Presidents Message Continued from page 1)

Club meeting this month will be a very good meeting. Jim Rudnicki NZ7T will be coming up from down south to do a presentation on HF. If you have an interest in HF or have been thinking about getting into it you should be there! I promise you will not be disappointed.

See ya at club meeting!

73 de Tyler N7UWX

(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

ance of some 30 chaps who welcomed me to the area, and all sorts “barbies”. I found the owner of a local news and book shop to be a ham. We started off like a family reunion. “Did you bring your HF rig”? NO, Not enough room. He immediately pulled a set of keys to his house out of his pocket, gave me directions, instructions, and said “go have a go at it chappie”. We both felt immediate trust and friendship. We talked the same jargon, many times. Other Aussie friends couldn’t quite figure out how we got along in such a short time.

Five years later we had a similar experience in India. A two year wait for a reciprocal license, forget it!! I had written to a fellow ham in Bangalore, whose address had been furnished me by the ARRL as an international host for the country. Our brief correspondence established a foothold. Shortly after arrival, I gave him a tele call and within 20 minutes he roared up on a motor scooter, presented me with the latest edition of the Indian call book and it was like old home week. Others peering through the cracks in the door were scratching heads.

I had crammed a small iso step-down transformer, 220/120 VAC into a Radio shack box to run my razor. The voltage over there regularly varied from 180-250 volts. This and the humidity shortly fried the thing. I located a small 2 x 4 shop down a back alley. To my consternation the owner spoke only TELUGU, the state language. I smiled, waved my arms around, and pointed to the dead box, no compendo!! In desperation I grabbed a piece of paper, drew a diagram of a transformer, marked it with an “X” and held my nose with my fingers. Ahh, he knew right away what the problem was. I drew some figures for the voltages and current wanted, he held up two fingers, (two days), and it was rewound. We held quite an animated conversation for half an hour or so, we understood the same common principles although a world and language apart. Electronics diagrams were understood universally.

Lest I may have missed the point, fellow Amateur enthusiasts, get involved, don’t miss some of the greatest experiences you will ever have. You will find this avocation offers, a world of friendships, interests, memories and people that you will never forget.

Ham Radio at the Olympics by Tyler Griffiths, N7UWX

My Olympic experience began about the same time the ham’s involvement began.

A few years ago in the State Emergency Coordinators meeting I attended in Salt Lake City at the State Capitol, they presented an idea. The Feds had contacted Brent Thomas AC7H and asked for volunteers from the ham community. The reason the hams were being ask to help with the Olympics was they wanted to use the Amateur Radio repeater network for back-up communications in the event of a disaster.

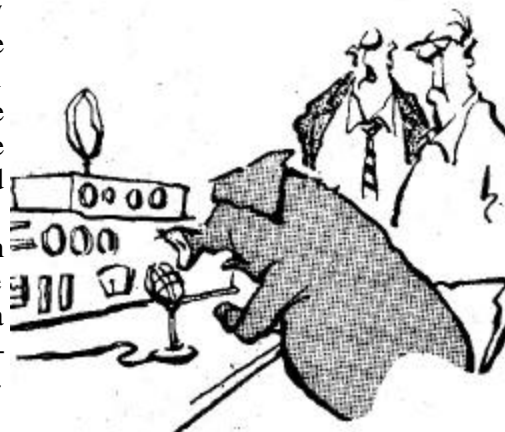
They figured the “bad guys” would not be thinking of the ham equipment.

The organization we would be assisting was UPOSC, Utah Public Safety command. This included The Utah Department of Public Safety, Salt Lake City Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Comprehensive Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Fire Services, Ogden Police Department, Park City Police Department, Provo Police Department, Public Works Services, Salt Lake County Sheriff’s Office, Salt Lake Organizing Committee, Summit County Sheriff’s Office, United States Secret Service, University of Utah, Utah National Guard, Wasatch County Sheriff’s Office, Weber County Sheriff’s Office, and West Valley Police Department.

After we started getting Amateur Radio volunteers, they put the hush on what was going on. They did not want what we were doing to be talked about on the air. Most post-Olympic communications were done by phone or by direct email.

The plan was to place a ham and radio at each venue that had multi-channel capability, link it to the UOPSC system using a JPS controller, which we got training on also. And if the you-know-what hit the fan, UOPSC could patch their radios right into our system and keep communications up and going.

The State did ask the FCC about a waiver so if this did happen we would be covered. But they said don’t even ask because if they did this it would be asking for



"You never seen a ham operator before?"

(Continued on page 4)

THE OLYMPICS



Bison



Dispatch is the setup where the hams worked along with a Secret Service agent. They ran all the cameras and radios from this position.

(Olympics Continued from page 3)

someone to abuse it. They figured that if it got to the point that we did link both systems together, things were already bad enough that it was a disaster and it would not matter anyway. We would be using whatever means we needed to communicate.

So after a background check and many training classes, not to mention the many miles we put on traveling to Salt Lake, the hams were ready. Just that UOPSC wasn't. Most hams got their credentials and were waiting for an assignment up till the week before the Olympics started. But still the Feds were in a constant state of change. Plans changed daily sometimes even hourly. From the start, a couple of retired hams volunteered their services to make all the assignments and other work that needed to be done for the ham side of things. They had their hands full!!!

My original assignment was to be on a "Tech Team" in the Ogden area. I would be working with a Secret Service Agent, an FBI Agent, Forest Service and the Department of



The digital system that was used to record inputs from all the cameras



The bank of radios that were active at the alt Lake Olympic Square

Defense repairing all radio and closed circuit systems.

All the Amateur Radio Tec Team people had a meeting on Friday before the Olympics started. This was held at the Secret Service HQ in Salt Lake. After the meeting we were told that some one would contact us later that day and let us know when and where to meet the next day. I waited till Wednesday for a phone call and it never came. I guess the team I was to work with thought they did not need any help from the hams! I kept getting assured that they would be calling

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soon but after Wednesday it became quite evident that it was not going to happen. Most of the other Tech Teams had no problem and got along very well with their teams.

After many calls to Salt Lake I finally got a new Job at the SLOS (Salt Lake Olympic Square). The SLOS was security for the whole square down town. I had the opportunity to work with the Secret Service, US Marshals, Salt Lake City Police, Salt Lake City EMS and the Military. My shift was swing shift.

Basically all I did was run the closed circuit cameras, fix a few surveillance kits (the little thing that the Secret Service talks to in their sleeve), help rekey some radios and monitor the Ham radio. There was a short net on each shift.

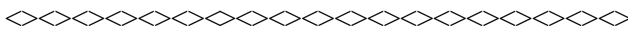
There was a shortage of non-sworn officers to run the camera system so since the hams were already going to be there they quickly organized some training sessions to train us on how to run the closed circuit camera system.

During our breaks I met up with Khalil Godfrey WA7SHW. We would go to the SLIC (Salt Palace) or the MMC (Main Media Center) for dinner. Our credentials would let us go about anywhere we wanted to. If we went to the Salt Palace we could watch whatever event was going on down on the Ice.

Fortunately there was not much action. Things were very peaceful. The SLOS was in charge of the Mag-and-bag's so there were some interesting things there. They usually brought in a box of items confiscated each evening. They include knives, pepper spray, brass knuckles, toy guns and one evening the most interesting thing I saw was on person trying to get in with a pair of hedge trimmers. He was wearing painter pants and had them in the loop of his pants. One other interesting confiscation was a guy tried to sneak a knife in by placing it under his grandmother who was in a wheel chair. Needless to say he was caught.

So, the Olympics were a very fun, interesting and boring time. But that was the hope of UOPSC. That meant that they did their job right.

I would do it again in a heart beat because it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I'm sure I'll never have a chance like that again.



Several people have asked about where they can go to renew their license online. The FCC's site requires no fee, but is more complicated than one would suppose that it needs to be. You will probably

have to download and install the latest Java Runtime Environment—they step you through that process. Go here and read the instructions carefully: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/licensing/renewal.html> Hint: go to ONLINE FILING and choose RE-NEWAL ONLY for the Purpose of Application. QRZ.COM offers online renewal through the W5YI-VEC that is much simpler. They charge the \$6 VEC fee (credit card) and have a toll-free number (800-669-9594) if you have any questions: <http://www.qrz.com/lrs>



Hey is anybody out there in need of QSL Cards? I was sent to this site by a fellow ham and it really makes a nice card. There is a program you download and install on your computer. It's very simple! <http://hfradio.org/wb8rcr/>
73 de Tyler N7UWX



The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 13 Mar 29, 2002

==>ALL-HAM ISS CREW'S DUTY TOUR EXTENDED

The Expedition 4 International Space Station crew of Commander Yuri Onufrienko, RK3DUO, and flight engineers Dan Bursch, KD5PNU, and Carl Walz, KC5TIE, will be spending an extra month in orbit. Problems with the Canadarm 2 robotic arm on the ISS will result in extending their mission to 189 days—a new record for the US crew members. March 29 marks 114 days in space for the current crew, which came aboard in December. Late last week NASA decided to bump the launch of the Expedition 5 crew aboard the shuttle Endeavour (STS-111) from May 6 to May 31 in order to permit more training time for the shuttle crew to deal with the mechanical arm repair. Shuttle astronauts will replace a wrist joint in the space station's mechanical arm. The Endeavour won't be returning to Earth until June 12, which means the astronauts on the Expedition 4 crew will beat NASA's current space endurance record by one day. US astronaut Shannon Lucid, who spent 188 days aboard the Russian Mir spacecraft in 1996, is the current American record holder, and she will still hold the women's space endurance record. Onufrienko, however, will not come close to topping the Russian 438-day endurance record set aboard Mir in 1994 and 1995 by cosmonaut Valery Polyakov. For more information about the ISS, visit NASA's Human Space Flight Web site, <<http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/index.html>>. —NASA, news accounts

Questions for Extra Class License

1. (E1D04) Which amateur stations may be operated in RACES?
 - A. Only Extra class amateur stations
 - B. Any licensed amateur station (except a station licensed to a Technician)
 - C. Any licensed amateur station certified by the responsible civil defense organization
 - D. Any licensed amateur station (except a station licensed to a Technician) certified by the responsible civil defense organization
2. (E1F08) What is the VE accreditation process?
 - A. General and higher class licensees are automatically allowed to conduct amateur license examinations once their license is granted
 - B. The FCC tests volunteers who wish to conduct amateur license examinations
 - C. A prospective VE requests permission from three or more already accredited VEs to administer amateur license examinations
 - D. Each VEC ensures its Volunteer Examiner applicants meet FCC requirements to serve as VEs
3. (E2A08) What is a linear transponder?
 - A. A repeater that passes only linear or CW signals
 - B. A device that receives and retransmits signals of any mode in a certain passband
 - C. An amplifier that varies its output linearly in response to input signals
 - D. A device which responds to satellite telecommands and is used to activate a linear sequence of events
4. (E5A08) What is the magnitude of the circulating current within the components of a parallel L-C circuit at resonance?
 - A. It is at a minimum
 - B. It is at a maximum
 - C. It is DC
 - D. It is zero
5. (E5D07) What is the relationship between the current through an inductor and the voltage across an inductor?
 - A. Voltage leads current by 90 degrees
 - B. Current leads voltage by 90 degrees
 - C. Voltage and current are 180 degrees out of phase
 - D. Voltage and current are in phase

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PO BOX 111
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April, 2002

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