



THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

MAY 2002

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Well it's May and summer is on its way. Time to get all that outside RF work done. That also indicates that the club will be heavily into our public service activities.

Public service is part of Amateur Radio. It gives us excellent opportunity to practice emergency communications skills, which will become an essential knowledge during a disaster.

I have noticed this year that Ham participation has dropped. Not as many people are signing up to help with activities as in the past.

Other than the experience it gives us in emergency communications, it can be fun. I know for example, LOTOJA, many people look forward to this every year and get ready for the next year as soon as the previous one is complete. It is a great chance to come out and meet members of the club and the Amateur community. Many new friendships and a good time are guaranteed.

Life today is a lot busier that it was just a few years ago and people don't have the free time they used to. I know I don't! I guess we could always drop the activities, but I really don't think that is practical.

I know I have pushed this subject a lot lately but I think we all need the experience, especially if you're new to ham radio. Also a lot of members of our community have become dependant on the communication we provide. Many of the events we help with would not be possible without ham communications. LOTOJA people tell us that each year and appreciate us for that.

Please take a moment to review the list of public service activities else where in this newsletter and help out where you're available.

May's club meeting will be May 9th. We have

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HAM PROFILE

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

Anyone who remembers that the plate socket pin # for a 6V6 is 3, and the 6.3 volt filament pins are 2 & 7 ought to deserve some recognition and Ken Bliss, W7TTL is one of the lingering few. Ken & spouse Callie reside in Wellesville, near the center of things. Over there pioneers and folks of note get plaques, monuments, and buildings named for them. Ken's claim to fame is the standard ID for our own variety, namely a 40' plus tower with a hi-gain three element tri bander and 10 element 2 meter beam with rotator on top.

"You can spot em every time", no signs needed.

Ken presently sports a General ticket, although he looked me square in the eye and said shortly he would take care of the next upgrade. (How's that for a prod?) He's held a ticket since

Nov. of 53, been a member of Barc since the mid 70s, has gotten involved in Pony Express, Field days, and a few other goodies. He sports an HT, a Yaesu FT900, a Viking Ranger, and is looking for a replacement power transformer for a vintage SX-25. Fellas, clean out the shack, find a transformer for Ken, make your

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Upcoming Events for 2002

Mountain Man Rendezvous - Friday, May 24
(while the school children attend)

Little Mt bike race (Cache Classic) - Saturday, May 25th

Tour de Wellsvilles (Cache Classic) - Sunday, May 26th

Individual Time Trial (Cache Classic) - Monday, May 27th

Cache Valley Biathlon - Saturday, June 1st

Field Day - Saturday and Sunday June 22nd and 23rd

Clarkston Pony Express - Saturday, June 29th

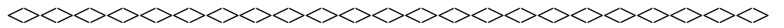
Cache Cruise In Parade - Saturday July 6th

LOTOJA - Saturday, September 14th

Top of Utah Marathon - Saturday, September 21st

JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) - Saturday October 19th ????

Contact Tyler N7UWX at 752-7269 or email tyler@n7uwx.net



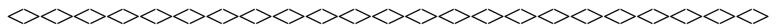
VE Test Session

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

At Campbell Scientific Inc.

815 West 1800 North

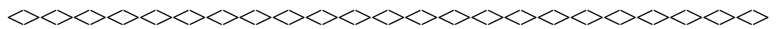
Logan, Utah



The cost of QSLing is on the rise again. The United States Postal Service has announced that new postal rates will go into effect June 30. The single-piece, one-ounce first-class mail rate will increase three cents—from \$0.34 to \$0.37. The additional ounce rate for single-piece first-class mail will remain at \$0.23. The single-piece card rate (eg, QSL cards) will increase by two cents—from \$0.21 to \$0.23.

For details, visit the USPS Web site

<<http://www.usps.gov/ratecase/>>.



(Presidents Message Continued from page 1)

Mel Parkes AC7CP coming up with a presentation on the ARRL and the VHF Society. And if everything works out he may bring along Brent Thomas AC7H with the State communications Van. See ya there!

73 de Tyler N7UWX

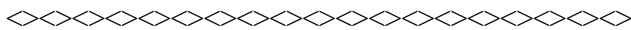


Space Bulletin 004 ARLS004
ARLS004 SaudiSat 1-A (SO-41) now
available for amateur use

SaudiSat 1-A (SO-41) now is reported open for Amateur Radio communication. According to information received by AMSAT-NA President Robin Haighton, VE3FRH, SO-41 has been configured for FM voice repeater operation. Turki Al Saud, director of the Space Research Institute in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia—the satellite's sponsoring agency—told AMSAT-NA that SO-41 will automatically enable its UHF transmitter over Saudi Arabia and the US for approximately 20 minutes each pass. The spacecraft reportedly is configured for Mode J, with a VHF uplink of 145.850 MHz and a UHF downlink of 436.775 MHz. The spacecraft will operate in this mode intermittently, as power and spacecraft experiments permit, the announcement said.

SO-41's downlink RF power is 1 W with left-hand circular polarization. The uplink antenna—located atop the spacecraft—is linear in polarization. Experiments and software development continue with SaudiSat 1-B (SO-42), and that satellite is not yet available to amateurs.

SaudiSat 1A and 1B were launched along with TIUNGSAT-1 on September 26, 2000, from the Baikonur Cosmodrome, aboard a converted Soviet ballistic missile. Both satellites have been in various stages of commissioning since then.



The ARRL Letter Vol. 21, No. 15

FCC VANQUISHES VANITY BACKLOG

The longstanding vanity call sign application backlog that had built up as a result of mail problems last October is now history. The FCC issued another 328 vanity call signs this week. That completed the processing of applications received at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office through March 25--right at the typical 18-day vanity application waiting period.

"We are back on track for vanity processing," an FCC Private Wireless Division Licensing and Technical Analysis Branch staff member told ARRL. While not ruling out any problems down the road, she indicated that everything was working fine now and that the FCC would resume its normal nightly vanity runs.

ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, congratulated the FCC's licensing staff on the accomplishment. "It's been a long time coming," he said. "A great deal of effort on the part of the FCC personnel in Gettysburg and some on the part of ARRL went into mak-

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(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

fraus happy, and take the weight off the floor.

Ken was born in SLC, back before anyone knew how to spell "freeways", "Olympics", or "budget shortfall". Ken attended High School in Provo and managed to squeeze in a couple of semesters at the Cougar lair. He did mention the configuration of one of the first rigs he put together that ought to qualify for some type of award. It was a single 6V6, with a 3,735 Kc crystal in the grid circuit, the only one he owned, due to monetary inadequacy in those days. He coupled the plate circuit directly to the antenna, minus a DC coupling capacitor no less. Couldn't afford one. With 400-500 jolts on the antenna no comments were made as to whether he fried any of the neighborhood cats, dogs, or other curiosity seekers of the human variety. Such examples of fruitfulness and ingenuity!

Ken spent 17 years with Thiokol in X-ray non destructive tests of the solid propellant motors they make out there. Then 22 years with Rockwell doing some similar things out at Little Mountain west of Ogden. He also managed to spend some time with the National Guard, 145th. Field Artillery, headquarters Battalion, in communications.

The next tid bit comes from high sources, namely Callie, formerly Callie Crosby. They first met on a blind date down in Provo, which was concocted by Callie's mother and that arrangement seemed to work out quite well. Ken ultimately had to check in with the future daddy in Law to fill him in on the details and make the proper requests. It appears we of the male type of species never do catch up with the plots generated by the fair part of the race.

Mamma in law must have seen some fine points in Ken, responding to a concern of Callie that he was spending inordinate amounts of time sequestered with his electronics in the basement. "Be thankful he's in the back room with his stuff, rather than in some bar with some floozy"

That amounts to honest to goodness Texas logic, since Callie was born in Settlement, Texas. Now go after that one guys. Two boys and two girls have tested the mettle of these two good people, all married, 14 grand kids, and 3 great ones so far. Callie has spent the last 25 years in the Logan Family History Library. "She has all the answers to all your family history research problems, plus some you didn't even know existed" Get acquainted with both of them.



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



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ing this happen.”

Among the latest happy customers was ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, who traded in her government-issue KB1HYD for K1MMH, reflecting her initials.

At its peak, the vanity backlog was estimated at more than 2000 applications. Routine vanity processing resumed in early March. With the exception of a four-day hiatus to deal with a processing anomaly later that month, the FCC has been slowly but surely whittling away the application stack. The processing of routine Amateur Service applications was unaffected by the vanity problems.

The vanity holdup began after some two weeks of paper vanity applications sent off last October for anthrax decontamination were not returned to Gettysburg. Since FCC policy continues to give equal priority to paper and electronic vanity applications, vanity processing was halted when the paper applications didn't come back. FCC staffers—with help from the ARRL—used payment information to contact those who had filed and have them submit new applications. Last month, the FCC began receiving the applications that had been missing.

The FCC has proposed increasing the regulatory fee it charges vanity call sign applicants from \$12 to \$14.50 for the 10-year license term. Comments on the proposal are due April 23, and reply comments are due May 3. The new, higher fee likely would go into effect in September. The vanity fee is paid at the time of application for a new, renewal or reinstated vanity license.

==>ARRL TO OFFER HF DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS COURSE

The ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) Program soon will introduce its newest on-line course—HF Digital Communications (EC-005). Registration for the new course opens Monday, April 15. It marks the fifth course in the growing list of continuing education offerings from ARRL.

"Students will understand the scope of HF digital Amateur Radio communications as they exist today," said ARRL C-CE Program Coordinator Dan Miller, K3UFG. "This course will develop your awareness and skills for the HF digital modes and assist you to use and benefit from them."

Students taking the course will become familiar with the scope of HF digital Amateur Radio communication modes available and learn how to use all of them. The curriculum was developed by QST Editor and digital enthusiast Steve Ford, WB8IMY, the au-

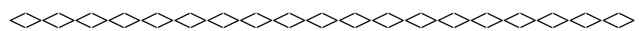
thor of ARRL's HF Digital Handbook.

"Having a resident expert like Steve Ford is a definite plus!" Miller said. The course covers many of the topics contained in Ford's book as well as some new ones. Early in the ARRL HF Digital Communications Course, students will learn how to configure a station for HF digital work, then learn about such topics as chasing digital DX and HF digital contesting. Students will become acquainted with RTTY, PSK31, MFSK, Hellschreiber, PACTOR, PACTOR II, WinLink 2000, Clover and HF packet, and they will need no prior experience with any of them.

Tuition for HF Digital Communications (EC-005) is \$60 for ARRL members and \$90 for nonmembers. Registration for the HF Digital Communications course opens Monday, April 15, at 4 PM Eastern Daylight Time, and there's a 50-seat class limit this month. Registration will remain open through the following weekend or until all seats are filled—whichever comes first. Students will have up to eight weeks to complete the course of study.

More course information is available at the C-CE Course Listing Page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>>. The ARRL Certification and Continuing Education offered its first on-line class—in Amateur Radio Emergency Communications—in December 2000. Since then, the highly successful emergency communications series has expanded to three levels and benefited hundreds of amateurs. Last December, the program added its first technical offering, a class in Antenna Modeling (EC-004) that also has proven very popular.

Additional details about the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program are on the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>>. To learn more, contact C-CE Program Coordinator Dan Miller, K3UFG, cce@arrl.org.



Come and learn lots of things,
and join in with the fun at the

BARC club meetings. The next meeting will be at 7:30 on May 9 at the Hyde Park City offices.





Utah Hamfest 2002



ARRL ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION CONVENTION
July 12,13,14 2002 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday)
Ruby's Inn - Bryce, Utah (1 mile north of Bryce Canyon)
 Visit www.utahhamfest.org for more details

Special Guest and Breakfast Keynote Speaker Jim Haynie, W5JBP - ARRL President

Activities Include:

- BBQ Cookout / Eyeball QSO Party
- Dutch Oven Dinner
- Breakfast Banquet
- Dealers
- Outside Swap Meet Area Free (Bring your own table)
- Seminars and Forums
- Women's and Children's Events
- Contests:
 - CW, QLF, and Homebrew
 - Mobile Installation,
 - Transformer Toss (a new method)
 - Transmitter Hunts (a new challenge)
- Prize Drawings
- Wouff Hong
- HF Special Event Station
- Amateur License Exams - Pre-Registration Required
- Contact Fred Villanueva, N7FV
 (N7FV@arrl.net or Villa72@Juno.com)

Accommodations:

Ruby's Inn (Special Rates prior to June 21)
 2 Queen Beds \$70
 Pool Side \$90
 Lodge across street \$50
 Contact: **Keith** in Group Sales
Call: 1-435-834-5341 Ext. 7222
 Ask for Special Utah Hamfest Room Rates

RV/Campground:

Accommodations	For 2	For 8
Full Hookups	\$26	\$38
Electric & Water	\$23	\$35
Tent Spaces	\$15.50	\$26.50
Teepee Rental	\$23	\$35
Call: 1-435-834-5301	Fax 1-435-834-5481	

Grand Prize: ICOM 706MKIIG
Pre-Registration Prize: ICOM IC-207H

Registration Information: Mel Parkes, AC7CP – ac7cp@arrl.org
Before June 21st Adult (18 and over) \$7.00, Youth (17 & Under) \$3.00 **(No mail-ins after June 21, 2002)**
At the Door: Adult \$10 and Youth \$5.00

Please Print Please provide your e-mail address so we may send you a confirmation

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: () _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Number of Adults: X \$7 / \$10 = \$ _____

Number of Youth and their ages (17 & under): X \$3 / \$5 = \$ _____

(Youth registrations eligible for youth prizes only)

Friday BBQ Cookout / Eyeball QSO Party: X \$6 = \$ _____

Saturday Dutch Oven Dinner X \$12 = \$ _____

Sunday Breakfast Buffet: X \$9 = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Names of Additional Attendees:

_____ Call sign: _____

_____ Call sign: _____

_____ Call sign: _____

_____ Call sign: _____

Must have names and call signs (if applicable) of all registered attendees.

Check or Money orders Payable to:

Utah Hamfest
PO Box 382
Bountiful, Utah 84011-0382

Questions for General Class License

1. (G1B10) Which of the following amateur transmissions is NOT prohibited by the FCC Rules?
 - A. The playing of music
 - B. The use of obscene or indecent words
 - C. False or deceptive messages or signals
 - D. Retransmission of space shuttle communications
2. (G1C05) What is the maximum transmitting power an amateur station may use on 24.950 MHz?
 - A. 200 watts PEP output
 - B. 1000 watts PEP output
 - C. 1500 watts PEP output
 - D. 2000 watts PEP output
3. (G1D08) If you are a Technician licensee with a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for General privileges, how do you identify your station when transmitting phone emissions on 14.325 MHz?
 - A. No special form of identification is needed
 - B. You may not operate on 14.325 MHz until your new license arrives
 - C. You must give your call sign, followed by any suitable word that denotes the slant mark and the identifier "AG"
 - D. You must give your call sign and the location of the VE examination where you obtained the CSCE
4. (G4A08) Why is neutralization necessary for some vacuum-tube amplifiers?
 - A. To reduce the limits of loaded Q
 - B. To reduce grid-to-cathode leakage
 - C. To cancel AC hum from the filament transformer
 - D. To cancel oscillation caused by the effects of interelectrode capacitance
5. (G9A03) Approximately how long is the director element of a Yagi antenna for 21.1 MHz?
 - A. 42 feet
 - B. 21 feet
 - C. 17 feet
 - D. 10.5 feet
6. (G9C02) What is one advantage of using a random-wire antenna?
 - A. It is more efficient than any other kind of antenna
 - B. It will keep RF energy out of your station
 - C. It doesn't need an impedance matching network
 - D. It is a multiband antenna

**THE OHM TOWN NEWS
PO BOX 111
PROVIDENCE, UT 84332**

May, 2002

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