



# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

*Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club*

## September 2003

>>>>> <http://www.baronline.org> <<<<<<

### President's Message

Well, another summer is about to pass us by and hopefully everyone is excited for the club social coming up on the 11<sup>th</sup>. While this is an annual event, the location will be changing to the Hyrum-Gibbons Mt. Logan Park up on Cliffside at 1400 east (Gibbons parkway) and about 350 South. It will start at 6:30 pm. Bring your own food and utensils. The club will provide the root beer.



Directly following the club social will be the final LOTOJA planning meeting where Epek will be distributing signs, shirts and other paraphernalia for the race. If you are helping with the race, please be there.

The club has been busy throughout the summer, as usual, supporting a myriad of events. I'd like to thank everyone who has pitched in to make this support possible. For those who haven't had a chance to volunteer, we still have a major event coming up: the Top of Utah Marathon. This will be held on September 20 this year. As always, we need lots of help. If you have time and would like to join in, please contact Brett Butler (N7UXA).

We are excited to start holding regular club meetings again. If any of you have suggestions for topics/activities, please let us know. We're looking forward to seeing you all again.

Thanks and 73  
N7XZ

### VE Test Session

Coming up at 8:00 a.m. on 27 September 2003  
At Campbell Scientific Inc.

815 West 1800 North Logan, Utah

VE Test sessions are your opportunity to become a ham or upgrade your current license. Those seeking a ham license should bring two forms of ID, one of which must be a picture ID. Those seeking an upgrade to a current Amateur should bring a copy of their current license, any CSCE, and a picture ID. The fee will be \$12.00. For more info Contact Clyde Best AC7KN at 563-9492.

### HAM PROFILE

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

If John Merkley, KB7RAO, could say that he had a honey of a job, a honey in the kitchen, and some in the Uintah Basin, he would be correct on all three. When we add all the figures up, it appears that Smithfield harbors a goodly percentage of the Hams in the valley. John, one of our fraternity, was born in Tridell, Utah. (For those whose geography classes stopped short of such vital data, Tridell is just West of Vernal) He graduated from Union High School in Roosevelt, shortly accepted a mission call in 61 for his faith and served in the New York area. Now comes the exciting part. One of his companions was from the spud state to the North and by coincidence happened to be a ham, K7ATT. Can you sense something bizarre coming up? Together they traveled the country side searching for, you guessed it, towers and antennas, a sure give away. As most of you realize, a common interest in Amateur Radio, opens doors, establishes immediate friendships, and triggers the old eyeball procedure. There's nothing quite like it. This fraternal



Ham characteristic of our genre of humans must have impressed John and later inspired him to get his ticket. He has had a tech license for about 11 years. He sports a dual band HT, and has some appropriate mag mount antennas for the family prime mover. Some heartless scoundrel made off with his first ICOM HT, shame, shame.

He attended USU, receiving a BS in Math and Ed, later picking up an MS with a specialist qualification. He taught at Skyview for a number of years, retiring there and has been teaching at USU for the past 8. A distinct impression was that John doesn't like to stand still for very long. Along the route at USU he met and married a certain belle from Sharon, PA., Judith Gillette. She has an MS in Elementary Education and is currently involved in

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## Some of the Activities still coming this summer

BARC Club Meeting/social	September 11
LOTOJA	September 13
Top of Utah Marathon	September 20
JOTA	October 18

You can also contact Tyler Griffiths to sign up to help, or for more information.

### Club Summer Social

Coming up on Thursday, September 11 is the BARC Club Meeting. As usual, the September meeting is the end of Summer social. It is being held at a different location this year, it will be held at the Hyrum-Gibbons Mt. Logan Park up on Cliffside at 1400 east (Gibbons parkway) and about 350 South. It will be a pot luck dinner, bring your own utensils and something good to eat to share with some of the group. This is a great time to meet some of the new people in the area and in the Club. It will be earlier than the usual club meeting time, it will be at 6:30 P.M.

Shortly after the dinner will be the final LOTOJA meeting where all the last minute changes and information will be given out. Also all of the materials and signs will be available to those needing them for the areas they will be helping with.

*(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)*

the Kindergarten age group at Sunrise Elementary. They have 6 children, Nanette, Andrew, Steven, Kenneth, David, and James. Incidentally Kenneth whose field is Biology, currently is involved in research at USU. This year he will take the part of Martin Harris at the pageant in Clarkston.

To further explain the riddle at the beginning of the article, he explained that he had purchased a honey business from an Uncle out in the Uintah Basin, has 50 acres for the hives and does a respectable business, weather and nature willing. For those of you who feel all you have to do is dip a cup into the bee hive and extract the good stuff, it's a lot more iffy and complex than that. Bad weather, mites, foul brood, and the transmigration of the fabled African bee strains are just a few of the challenges. I learned that the African bee is a good honey producer, very aggressive, and apparently can be handled with a little expertise.

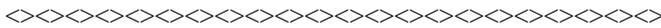
Both John and his wife have been involved in scouting for years, she being involved in the cub scouts on the district level, he serving as the district commissioner in Cache for a period. Both having received the Silver Beaver award. "GOOD ON YA BOTH". That tells a tale.

Now to cap things all off, he casually mentioned that he just got involved in flying an Ultra Light craft, which he keeps at the airport. Did you ever take lessons, NO. Do you have to have a license, NO. Did you talk to a few old timers on how to do it, A FEW. How fast will the thing go, about 30 mph. How high will the thing go, it's rated at 14,000', although most of the jaunts are at about 500' in the valley. The engine, a two cylinder snowmobile job, with about 2 hour capability. What did your wife say about this ---"Not shocked in the least, most of the stuff he gets involved in isn't out of the ordinary" Now gents, there is a Ham with an understanding wife, you singles, look for that quality, Ham radio after all may be quite tame in comparison.

**ARRL Bulletin 38 ARLB038 June 3, 2003**

**ARLB038 New 60-meter band becomes available July 3**

The new five-channel 60-meter domestic secondary amateur allocation becomes available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight local time on July 3. The FCC Report and Order granting the allocation was published June 3 in the Federal Register. Federal government users are primary in the 5MHz band. The FCC has granted amateurs use of five 2.8 kHz-wide channels with center frequencies of 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz. The channels will be available to General and higher class licensees. The only permitted mode will be upper-sideband USB phone, and 50 W ERP is the maximum power allowed. Users of the 60-meter channels should set their carrier frequency 1.5 kHz lower than the channel center frequency. ARRL suggests restricting transmitted audio bandwidth to 200 Hz on the low end and 2800 Hz on the high end for a total bandwidth of 2.6 kHz. ARRL recommends that amateurs considering modifying existing amateur equipment for operation on 60 meters contact the equipment's manufacturer for advice.



**ARRL Bulletin 40 ARLB040 June 18, 2003**

**ARLB040 5 MHz allocation update**

When the five new 60-meter channels become available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight (12 AM) local time on July 3, the rules will impose a new record-keeping requirement for hams. The requirement applies only to those using something other than a simple half-wave dipole on the 5 MHz allocation. According to Part 97.303(s), a half-wave dipole on the 5 MHz allocation will be presumed to have a gain of 0 dBd. "Licensees using other antennas must maintain in their station records either manufacturer data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain," states the newest addition to the FCC's Amateur Service rules. Because the new rules also require hams to run no more than 50 W effective radiated power (ERP) on the new channels, the choice of antenna becomes an important compliance factor. The FCC rules stipulate, "For the purpose of computing ERP, the transmitter PEP will be multiplied (by) the antenna gain relative to a dipole or the equivalent calculation in decibels." ARRL has posted a list of frequently asked questions (FAQ) concerning 5 MHz operation on the ARRL Web site, [www.arrl.org/fandes/field/regulations/faq.html#sixty](http://www.arrl.org/fandes/field/regulations/faq.html#sixty).



**ARRL Bulletin 41 ARLB041 June 24, 2003**

**ARLB041 ARRL becomes an affiliate program of Citizen Corps**

ARRL now is an official affiliate program of Citizen Corps, an initiative within the Department of Homeland Security to enhance public preparedness and safety. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, signed a formal Statement of Affiliation between DHS and ARRL during the ARRL 2003 National Convention June 21 in Dallas, Texas. Chief Operating Officer of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate (FEMA) Ron Castleman represented DHS at the signing. Citizen Corps Liaison to the White House Liz DiGregorio called ham radio operators the "first of the first responders." "You are there. You are part of that very, very first response when it

happens locally," especially in the initial stages of an emergency or disaster, DiGregorio told the overflow audience at the signing ceremony. She urged amateurs to explore ways to expand their role in the community beyond being the last resort when other communication systems fail. "You need to show your community that you're engaged," she said. "They need to know as a community that ARRL is there." Among other things, the affiliation statement calls on DHS and ARRL to raise public awareness of Amateur Radio as a safety resource. In addition, DHS and ARRL will cooperate in providing training and accreditation for Amateur Radio emergency communications and promote the formation of local Citizen Corps councils.



**ARRL Bulletin 54 ARLB054 August 18, 2003**

**ARLB054 Hams a bright spot during power blackout**

When a power blackout struck at least a half dozen eastern states August 14, many Amateur Radio operators were ready and able to provide whatever assistance they could. Hardest hit were metropolitan areas like New York City, Detroit and Cleveland. With cellular systems overloaded or out altogether, the incident turned into a test of Amateur Radio's capabilities to operate without commercial power. New York City-Long Island Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Carrubba, KA2D, called the response "a good drill," but says it was a cautionary tale too. "The lesson is that everybody gets a little complacent," he said. "Have emergency power backup and make sure it's working!" By and large, Carrubba said, ARES members did what they were trained to do. "It's going to show the worth of Amateur Radio," he said of the blackout response. "There were people on the air immediately." Diane Ortiz, K2DO, the Public Information Coordinator for NYC-Long Island was one of them. When power went down in her Suffolk County community, she started up an informal VHF net. Over the next 20 hours or so, it passed some 500 pieces of traffic. In addition to handling messages for people stranded in the city, amateurs also relayed useful information, such as which stores or filling stations were open and operating. With many radio and TV stations dark, hams were able to help fill the information void, Ortiz said. In the Big Apple itself, ARES teams provided communication support for Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs) set up at main transportation centers in Manhattan. ARES members also accompanied ERVs on fire calls. RACES activated in most Greater New York City area counties after a state of emergency was declared. Some ARES teams—including a few across the Hudson River in New Jersey—activated or remained on standby to help if called upon. In New Jersey, a net linked the Red Cross lead chapter's N2ARC in Princeton with other New Jersey ARC chapters. Michigan Section Manager Dale Williams, WA8EFK, relied on his emergency generator. Some Michigan ARES teams assisted emergency operations centers and the Red Cross, he said. In Ohio, Section Emergency Coordinator Larry Rain, WD8IHP, reports

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that all ARES organizations in northern Ohio were activated. Still going strong at week's end were ARES teams in Cleveland and Akron. ARES handled communication support for Ohio Emergency Management. Nancy Hall, KC4IYD—who lives west of Cleveland—said she's glad she took the ARRL Emergency Communications Level I class. "I have to say that being a ham and knowing about emergency preparedness did make life easier for me and my family," she said.



**ARRL Bulletin 55 ARLB055 August 22, 2003  
ARLB055 Pro-BPL comments lack technical substance, ARRL says**

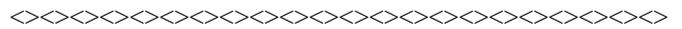
The ARRL said Broadband over Power Line (BPL) proponents have failed to substantiate their claims that the technology will not cause widespread interference. In reply comments filed August 20, the League said that if the FCC is going to rely on industry statements in making decisions on BPL deployment, the industry should back up its assertions with technical studies and hard data and make these public. While BPL advocates claim no interference, ARRL said its own field tests lead inescapably to the conclusion that BPL will, if deployed, create widespread harmful interference. "The interference was manifest and widespread and would be so even to an untrained observer," ARRL said. The ARRL supplemented its text comments with technical exhibits that document the results of testing at several BPL field trial sites. The League also noted that comments in the proceeding so far have been silent on the interference susceptibility of BPL to ham radio signal ingress. "It is past time that the Commission acted in its proper role as a steward of the radio spectrum and recognized the interference potential of BPL to the sensitive incumbent licensed services in these bands," the League concluded.



**ARRL Bulletin 45 ARLB045 July 11, 2003  
ARLB045 7 MHz realignment compromise makes radio history**

In an 11th-hour compromise, delegates to World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) agreed to move broadcasters out of 7100 to 7200 kHz in Regions 1 and 3 to make room for the Amateur Service. The expanded worldwide allocation at 40 meters goes into effect on March 29, 2009. Amateurs in the US and the rest of Region 2 will continue to enjoy the 7000 to 7300 kHz band they now have, but with greatly reduced broadcasting interference. The compromise marked the first time in the history of internationally coordinated radio spectrum allocation that an HF broadcasting band was shifted to accommodate the needs of another service. The compromise cuts in half the incompatibility between amateur and broadcasting use of the 7 MHz band and doubles the 40-meter spectrum available to amateurs in Regions 1 and 3. While the result falls short of the IARU's goal of a 300-kHz worldwide exclusive band for amateurs, the cooperation of broadcasters, opposing delegates and many others was required to make a positive step for ham radio. Spectrum between 4 and 10 MHz is on the agenda for WRC-07, but further changes to 7000-7200 kHz will not be considered.

The conference also dropped the international Morse code requirement, leaving individual countries to decide if they want to retain a code proficiency requirement, and adopted a number of improvements to the other international regulations for the amateur service. The delegates also agreed to allowed a secondary allocation for satellite borne synthetic aperture radars at 70 cm and made amateur call sign assignment more flexible.



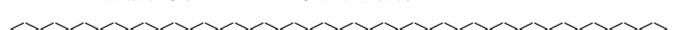
**The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 33 August 22, 2003  
HAM-CONCERT PIANIST-JOGGER COMPLETES  
880-MILE CHARITY RUN**

Concert pianist and cancer survivor Martin Berkofsky, KC3RE, has completed his 880-mile "Celebrate Life Run" <<http://www.celebrateliferun.com>> from Tulsa, Oklahoma, to the Chicago area. An ARRL member, Berkofsky set out jogging on April 9, his 60th birthday, to celebrate his recovery from cancer and to raise money for research into the disease. He concluded his marathon around midday August 20 in Zion, Illinois. He performed a special concert August 21 for cancer patients, their families and staff members at Cancer Treatment Centers of America (CTCA) Midwestern Regional Medical Center. "How grateful I am for all of the support and help from so many radio amateurs," Berkofsky told ARRL. He singled out for special mention the Tulsa Amateur Radio Club and its president, Gregg Wonderly, W5GGW, as well as the Washington (Missouri) Zero Beaters, the Chicago FM Club, and his QSL manager Murray Green, K3BEQ. He also acknowledged "the countless radio amateurs who kept me company with on-the-road QSOs, many even driving out to meet me personally and to help me with road directions when my maps weren't clear." Along the way, Berkofsky carried a quad-band ham radio handheld transceiver to chat with locals as he passed through their communities. He also marked his daily position using borrowed APRS gear and made some QSOs via EchoLink. Berkofsky says he set a daily record of 23.1 miles on July 16. "Went through the wall, as runners would say," he said. CTCA and the Cancer Treatment Research Foundation (CTRF) <<http://www.celebrateliferun.com/ctrf.cfm>> sponsored Berkofsky's run and are benefactors of the donations pledged on its behalf. CTCA says his run raised more than \$80,000 for cancer research. "How proud I am to say that Amateur Radio played such a large part in this," Berkofsky added. "I think it will take months to really understand everything that has happened." The run also garnered extensive media coverage along its route. "What an incredible experience, what incredible lessons . . . what a wonderful country we have" Berkofsky said. "I hope I come out of this as a better person."



Anyone interested in contributing information, articles, or letters to the Editor, please send them via e-mail to [kb7upw@arrl.net](mailto:kb7upw@arrl.net) or via snail mail to 133 E. Center Smithfield, UT 84335. All inputs are welcome!!!

Dale Cox OTN Editor



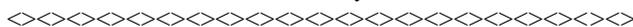
Answers to Questions on Page 6  
1-B , 2-D , 3-B , 4-D , 5-C , 6-C

**ARRL Bulletin 50 ARLB050 July 24, 2003**

**ARLB050 ARRL Board requests policy recommendations to implement WRC-03 results**

The ARRL Board of Directors has called on ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and the ARRL Executive Committee to develop ARRL policy recommendations for an FCC filing to implement the results of World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, chaired the July 18-19 Board session in Windsor, Connecticut. "The League, as the Amateur Radio representative in the United States, will, through its democratic process, review input from its members as to the impact and implementation of these results to the Part 97 rules," a Board resolution declared. A report on the policy recommendations is due next January. The Board expressed gratitude to the IARU and ARRL WRC-03 team for its "tireless and dedicated efforts in promoting Amateur Radio" and congratulated it for achieving the IARU's goals at the month-long international conference, which wrapped up in Geneva July 4. Delegates to WRC-03 reached a compromise on a 200-kHz worldwide allocation--7000 to 7200 kHz--effective in 2009, with no change to the existing 300-kHz allocation in the US or elsewhere in Region 2. The conference also eliminated the requirement that amateur applicants prove Morse code proficiency to operate below 30 MHz, leaving it up to individual administrations to retain or drop Morse as an exam element. WRC-03 decisions also resulted in changes affecting international third-party traffic, guidelines for standards of competence of amateur licensees, and recognition of the licenses of visiting amateurs. The Board also implemented some recommendations of the wide-ranging Final Report of the Volunteer Resources Committee to the ARRL Board of Directors--an Evaluation of the ARRL's Field Organization. The committee, chaired by ARRL Midwest Division Director Wade Walstrom, W0EJ, concluded that the state of the ARRL Field Organization is "fair," but not sufficient to meet the League's obligation to provide emergency communications, especially at the national level. In light of the report, the Board called for a comprehensive system to enhance the communications capabilities of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). There are situations, the Board said--especially given the League's new Citizen Corps partnership with the Department of Homeland Security--when ARES "must have the capability to pass traffic across the nation quickly and accurately." The Board also called on all 71 Section Emergency Coordinators to develop, implement and maintain a comprehensive Section Emergency Plan by year's end. Additionally, the Board asked Sumner to formally establish leadership training courses as a part of routine Section Manager orientation. In response to the so-called "Minute 56" report initiated at last July's meeting, the Board voted to initiate a process to revise ARRL band plans for amateur allocations between 902 MHz and 24.25 GHz. "New band plans will be developed using as a goal the full amateur deployment of each band," the Board said. The Board voted unanimously to authorize President Haynie--with assistance from Imlay and Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, "to explore specific terms of

expanded partnering plans with the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC). Such cooperation could involve greater integration of amateur operation in the bands from 902 MHz to 24.25 GHz in public safety and homeland security communications." Citing the Amateur Radio tradition of Elmering (mentoring) new and prospective amateurs, the Board okayed a resolution instructing the VRC to develop two or more viable options for an ARRL Volunteer Mentor program that would provide for "the promotion, support and growth of mentoring in Amateur Radio." The VRC is to present its options at the Board's January meeting. Additional details are on the ARRL Web site. The minutes of the July ARRL Board of Directors meeting will be posted on the ARRL Web site as soon as they are available.



**Club Store  
By N7RXE**

The Club store has had a very successful start. It has seen over \$200.00 in sales since it started in May. Many hams who have purchased items have commented on what a great service it is to the ham community. Contact N7RXE at N7RXE@arrl.net or 753-1645 for more information. The store will be available at club meetings and activities. It will be available at the club social coming up on the 11<sup>th</sup>. You may also call and make arrangements to pick up items. Those of you who ordered books can pick them up at the club social on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Items available	Price
Coax - RG213 Plus (great stuff)	.45/ft
Coax - RG-8X Plus IIA (smaller diameter)	.25/ft
PL-259s	1.25
Reducers	.45
Adapters	
UHF-BNC BNC -UHF	2.25
SMA/BNC	4.75
PL 258 Barrel	1.50
SO-239 Panel Mount	1.50
UHF/DF Bulk Head	3.50
Mini Speaker with cable and 1/8 jack	4.00
Anderson Power Poles (4 red 4 black)	4.80
MFJ Pocket J Pole	19.95
RG8X Coax assembly 3 feet	9.00
Repeater Directory	9.95
<b>Red &amp; Black power wire (Zip Cord)</b>	
12 gauge	.45
16 gauge	.32
18 gauge	.26
Anderson Power Pole connector pins	.10
Lots of Anderson Power Pole cables	

## Questions for Extra Class License

1. (E1A15) What type of FCC-issued license or permit is required to transmit amateur communications from a vessel registered in the US while in international waters?
  - A. Any amateur license with an FCC Marine or Aircraft endorsement
  - B. Any amateur license or reciprocal permit for alien amateur licensee
  - C. Any General class or higher license
  - D. An Extra class license
2. (E1E11) After space station transmissions are terminated, by when must the licensee of the station normally give the FCC written post-space notification?
  - A. No later than 48 hours
  - B. No later than 72 hours
  - C. No later than 7 days
  - D. No later than 3 months
3. (E2B11) What is the approximate transmission time per frame for a facsimile picture transmitted by an amateur station at 240 lpm?
  - A. 6 minutes
  - B. 3.3 minutes
  - C. 6 seconds
  - D. 1/60 second
4. (E4A02) What does the horizontal axis of a spectrum analyzer display?
  - A. Amplitude
  - B. Voltage
  - C. Resonance
  - D. Frequency
5. (E4E08) What is a loop antenna?
  - A. A large circularly-polarized antenna
  - B. A small coil of wire tightly wound around a toroidal ferrite core
  - C. Several turns of wire wound in the shape of a large open coil
  - D. Any antenna coupled to a feed line through an inductive loop of wire
6. (E6E02) For double-sideband phone emissions, what would be the bandwidth of a good crystal lattice band-pass filter?
  - A. 1 kHz at -6 dB
  - B. 500 Hz at -6 dB
  - C. 6 kHz at -6 dB
  - D. 15 kHz at -6 dB

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**PO BOX 111**  
**PROVIDENCE, UT 84332**

***September, 2003***

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