



THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

January 2004

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

Happy New Year

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Wow, it is hard to believe that the new year is here. I am still trying to remember what new years resolutions I made last year. Oh well, time for the new ones. I have been a member of this great club since I received my Novice license in 1990. One thing I have learned over the years is that everyone gets into the hobby for their own reasons. For some it is the excitement of talking around the world. For others it is to communicate with their families. Many get involved so they can support their communities with emergency communications, and others love the opportunity to experiment and build. For me it is all of the above. That is what is so great about this hobby. There is no reason to get bored. However, there have been times I could not participate with the club or hobby as much as I had hoped, but I always tried to get to field day, and the Christmas party, the flag ship events of the club. When it comes right down to it, it is the amateurs and their families that make this so much fun! You are a great group of people!

Expect some different club meetings this year. I am calling on the presidency and board members to think out of the box this year. I am asking the board members at large to be the eyes and ears of the club, to talk up amateur radio and to invite others to join us. I call upon all amateurs in the valley to renew their interest in the hobby and club, especially in teaching and recruiting new members to the hobby. We have some great elmers out there, we have a lot of new and interested persons wanting some help.

Fortunately I have a lot of ideas. Unfortunately I cannot do it alone, nor can a few participating members of the board. If everyone does just a little though, we can accomplish great things. The new presidency is already working on speakers for next year. Our goal is to get club meetings planned in advanced. There is a lot of interest in bunny hunts and direction finding. We are planning a building party in February or March for simple direction finders. We need to offer a Technician class, we should be doing demon-

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HAM PROFILE

By Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

If anyone makes any sort of electronic gadget related to the world of computers and associated technology, Tom Baldwin, KD7TRN, admitted he likely might have it, so if anyone needs a modified turbo encabulator MK II or low speed torque wrench, you now know where to find it. You know the old saying, "something old, something new, something borrowed, something blew". No returns are tolerated however.

You'll likely hear Tom on 2, with his Kenwood F6A dual bander or his D700 dual band mobile rig and mag mount. No tower in the back yard as yet, but I detected some indications he was thinking of some form of covert structure to squirt the stuff out when he upgrades to general in the near future.

Tom has held a tech license for a year or so, been a member of BARC, participated in Latoja, top of Utah, cruise in, and claims a chair at the monthly club meetings. He indicated he got infected with the Amateur bug back in High School in the CAP activities when they were using some modified Ham gear for communications. Strange thing, this Amateur Radio microbe turns up in the most uncommon areas, no known cure, however the symptoms are minimized when involvement in like activities with like afflicted parties takes place.

Tom was born in Fullerton CA, and with his parents, at three months, decided to forgo the smog, traffic, and people, migrated to Cache Valley. He attended the Logan City Schools, graduating from good old Logan High (please



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The BARC Christmas Party was a great success, if you weren't there you missed a great time! Many thanks to Beanie and the Board for a wonderful party, and a great year for the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

Club meeting for January will be the usual date and time, at 7:30 P.M. on 8 January at the Hyde Park offices.

The next VE Test Session should be in March. Stay tuned for more information on that and many other exciting activities for the upcoming year. If you have information or ideas for Club Meeting, Net Training Activities or other things you would like to do as part of the Club, please let someone from the Board know so that they can be included in the plan for this coming year. The new officers that have been elected for the upcoming year are listed in the Club Officers column to the left.



I had some good fun with the ARRL 160 Meter CW contest this year.

73

Jim K7OA

Answers to Questions on Page 6
1-A, 2-A, 3-B, 4-A, 5-A, 6-A, 7-D, 8-B

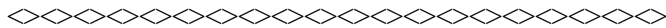
(Presidents Message Continued from page 1)

strations of amateur radio in the schools and at community events. We need a weekly net manager to oversee nets, and recruit others to participate as net control. Everyone should have that experience. I invite all to join us for these promotional activities.

Finally may I express my thanks to everyone who helps out with the numerous activities and community events we participate in each year. I appreciate the VEs, the newsletter editor, net control stations, repeater committee and all who pitch in to help. Thank you.

Now let's have some fun. I am ready! Who is with me?

N7RXE



(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

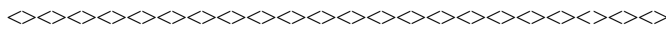
stand at attention). While there he dabbled in some theater productions with the sound and lighting.

After graduation, 97-99, he accepted a mission call for his faith, wound up in the Jacksonville Florida area, where he overcame a hurricane or two, myriads of chiggers, and some trophy cockroaches. He indicated one of the favorite menus was boiled peanuts and pecans. The pecans I can understand but had to be enlightened on the boiled peanuts bit. Apparently one takes the peanuts fresh out of the ground, dumps them into the pot and gives the stuff a lengthy boil. You buy them like that, a rather soggy mass, prod around a bit to find the peanuts and enjoy what ever it is you come up with. Strange goings on!! Their sojourns on bicycles after a drenching rain storm made for some interesting tales.

He enjoys Amateur Radio (what else is there?), PCs, model airplanes, Mtn. biking, and his present occupation with a local Telcom Co. involved in computer networking. He has an older sister who is presently in Australia, upside down of course, two younger brothers, and a younger sister. Incidentally the older sis in Australia mentioned that a favorite delicacy was vegemite. Seems we have heard of this one before. For anyone of you familiar with this stuff, it has the consistency of 90 weight tractor grease, brown in color, and is the by-product of the manufacture of beer. It goes great on warm toast in the mornings, provided you have a modest quantity of Mylanta handy.

Good luck on the update Tom, then you can string up the Rhombic for HF.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL--ONLY 11 1/2 MONTHS TILL THE NEXT ONE !!



ARRL Bulletin 69 ARLB069

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT December 4, 2003

ARRLB069 New General Class Question Pool Released

The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has released a revised and expanded Amateur Radio General class (Element 3) question pool into the public domain. The new question pool becomes effective July 1, 2004, and must be used to

generate all General written examinations administered on or after that date. "The pool has been expanded to 432 questions," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, a member of the Question Pool Committee, who notes that all subelements grew slightly. "The largest increase in questions this time around was in our Operating Procedures and Amateur Radio Practices subelements," he said. The General class question pool does not contain any diagrams or symbols. The new Element 3 question pool is available on the ARRL Amateur Exam Question Pools Web page at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html> in Adobe PDF and ASCII text format. It includes all questions and answers relating to Element 3. The Question Pool Committee now is turning its attention to developing an outline for an updated Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool, which will be revised over the next 24 months, Jahnke said. It will go into effect July 1, 2006. The deadline to submit input to the Amateur Extra question pool syllabus is May 1, 2004. Commenters may address specific Element 3 questions as well as inputs to the Element 3 syllabus and question pool to the Question Pool Committee via e-mail at qpc@arrl.org.



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ARRL Bulletin 70 ARLB070

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT December 11, 2003

ARRLB070 Congressional recess provides opportunity to promote bills

Just as the US House of Representatives was about to adjourn for the year, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act, HR 713, picked up three new cosponsors. The addition of Democrats Sander M. Levin of Michigan, Brad Sherman of California and Chris Van Hollen of Maryland brings the cosponsor list to 77. The nation's lawmakers now have headed home and won't be back in Washington until January 20. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, suggests that League members take advantage of the opportunity—while members of Congress are on their home turf—to pay a visit at their local offices and urge support for the spectrum protection measure and for the so-called "CC&R bill," HR 1478. "It wouldn't hurt to stop by and drop off a QSL card with a message asking for support," Haynie said. "That's what it's going to take. Cards and letters from individual voters do make a difference." Judging by the number of cosponsors to date, Haynie says, the spectrum protection bill appears to be gaining the attention of lawmakers. Identical versions of the Spectrum Protection Act have been introduced in the House and Senate. The number of cosponsors for the Senate version, S 537, remains at eight. Sponsored in the House by Rep Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) and in the Senate by Sen Michael Crapo (R-ID), the bill would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio if the FCC reallocates primary amateur frequencies, reduces any secondary amateur allocations, or makes additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs. Meanwhile, the cosponsor count on the CC&R bill—known formally as HR 1478, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act of 2003—is holding

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at 29. Sponsored by Rep Steve Israel (D-NY), the CC&R bill would require private land-use regulators such as homeowners' associations to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio antennas consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. The ARRL is seeking a sponsor for a companion bill in the US Senate. The bills' texts, sample letters and information on how to write members of Congress is on the ARRL's The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 Web page, www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html and on the HR 1478, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act of 2003 Web page, www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr1478/. Those writing their lawmakers on behalf of the Spectrum Protection Act are asked to copy their correspondence via e-mail to spec-bill03@arrl.org. Those writing on behalf of the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, HR 1478, are asked to copy their correspondence to ccr-bill@arrl.org.

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ARRL Bulletin 71 ARLB071

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT December 12, 2003

ARRLB071 FCC announces new Universal Licensing System interface

The FCC on December 14 will unveil a new on-line filing interface for its Universal Licensing System (ULS), on the web at, <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>, which includes the Amateur Service. To implement the changes, the ULS on-line filing system will be down from 12 AM EST Saturday, December 13, until 10 AM EST Sunday, December 14. Among other features, the ULS's new look will include easier-to-read on-screen forms that guide users through filing and simplify such routine tasks as applying for license renewal, address change or vanity call sign. The FCC says the introduction of its new system, called "ULS License Manager," concludes phase one of an ongoing ULS overhaul by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. ULS License Manager will be compatible with most major Web browsers and computer platforms and no longer will require downloading Java and Java Script files. An FCC staffer involved with implementing ULS License Manager notes that all features may not be in place when the system debuts. The ULS will require all filers to log into the system using an FCC Registration Number (FRN) and Commission Registration System (CORES) password. Taxpayer Identification Numbers (TINs) no longer will be accepted for log-in purposes, the FCC said. Once the new system is up and running, all licenses and applications in the ULS database will be converted to the new ULS License Manager filing environment. There's also a new paper version of FCC Form 605, dated December 2003. One change is that Form 605 no longer requests a date of birth and will only accept an FRN and CORES password. There are no Amateur Service-related changes to any Form 605 schedules. The FCC says Amateur Service applicants may continue to use the March 2001 (or later) edition of Form 605, although it encourages use of the newest version. The new FCC Form 605 now is available via the FCC Web site at, <http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form605/605.html>. To assist with any ULS issues after the changeover, the Technical Support Hotline staff will be available Sunday, December 14, from 10 AM until 6 PM EST. Normal hours are weekdays (except holidays) from 8 AM until 6

PM Eastern Time. Technical Support is available via the FCC Web site at, <http://esupport.fcc.gov>, or telephone 877-480-3201 (TTY 202-414-1255). ULS licensing support and forms information is available weekdays (except holidays) from 8 AM until 5:30 PM Eastern Time via e-mail at ulshelp@fcc.gov, or telephone 888-CALLFCC (225-5322), Option 2 (users also may call 717-338-2888).

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The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 47 November 28, 2003

==>FCC REORGANIZES WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

The FCC has announced a reorganization of its Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/>> "to more effectively support the FCC's strategic goals—broadband, competition, spectrum, media, homeland security and modernizing the FCC." The WTB administers the Amateur Radio Service (Part 97) and amateur licensing, but the changes are expected to be transparent to the amateur community. The Amateur Service now will be administered by the newly named Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division. D'wana Terry, formerly chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division, will head the new division. "The bureau's portfolios have been redistributed along the lines of strategic goals, consolidating similar functions to focus resources better," the FCC said in a November 24 public notice. As a result of the reorganization, which the FCC approved November 13, WTB expands from five to six divisions: Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure, Spectrum Management Resources and Technologies, Auctions and Spectrum Access, Spectrum and Competition Policy, Mobility, and Broadband. In addition to the Amateur Service, the Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division will oversee Part 95, Marine, Aviation, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Public Safety Fixed Microwave, Public Safety and Private Land Mobile services and E911, among other areas. Responsibilities moved elsewhere include Fixed Microwave (Part 101), Instructional Television Fixed Service, the Multipoint Distribution Service, and the Multichannel Video Distribution and Data Service. The action reduces the scope and size of WTB's larger divisions and eliminates separate branches below the division level, while retaining their current functions. One of those was the Licensing and Technical Analysis Branch, headquartered in the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office. Among other tasks, that branch has handled the granting and issuance of Amateur Radio licenses and the vanity call sign program. Another was the Policy and Rules Branch at FCC Headquarters, which has been the home of Bill Cross, W3TN, an FCC figure well-known within the amateur community. Among other tasks, that branch has handled Amateur Radio rule making petitions and Part 97 rules interpretations. A potential plus of the new arrangement is that Cross now will work under another amateur licensee, Mike Wilhelm, WS6BR, who will report to Terry. The FCC said eliminating branches would promote greater management flexibility in deploying resources and lead to a flatter, more flexible organization without altering the bureau's overall mission. The Commission said it was able to carry out the reorganization by redeploying existing positions. WTB Chief John Muleta said the reorganization will result in "a mission-driven team that will be innovative in its approach to regulatory policies and customer service."

==> FCC begins "interference temperature" proceeding:
 The FCC has begun an inquiry and proposed rule making proceeding focusing on the concept of "interference temperature" as a means to quantify and manage interference among different services. The interference temperature model "takes into account the actual cumulative radio frequency energy from transmissions" and would "set a maximum cap on the aggregate of these transmissions," the FCC said in a public notice. The Commission's current primary approach to manage interference is to specify and limit the power output of individual devices. The FCC said the interference temperature approach "may facilitate more intensive use of the radio spectrum, creating the opportunities for new services and improving the predictability of any interference to existing services. The FCC has not yet released the Notice of Inquiry and Notice of Proposed Rule Making, adopted November 13 as ET Docket 03-237. The Commission will seek comment on various technical rules that would establish procedures and use the interference temperature model on a limited basis in the 6525-6700 MHz band and portions of the 12.75-13.25 GHz band.—FCC

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 The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 49 December 12, 2003

==>FEMA SAYS BPL WILL "SEVERELY IMPAIR" ESSENTIAL HF OPERATIONS

A proverbial monkey wrench in the works for BPL? Expressing "grave concerns" about likely interference from unlicensed Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) told the FCC that BPL could "severely impair FEMA's mission-essential HF radio operations in areas serviced by BPL technology." FEMA responded December 4 to last April's FCC BPL Notice of Inquiry, ET Docket 03-104. Now part of the Department of Homeland Security—the agency said its primary worry is BPL's potential impact on the FEMA National Radio System (FNARS) on HF. FNARS is FEMA's primary command and control backup medium under the Federal Response Plan. "FEMA has concluded that introduction of unwanted interference from the implementation of BPL technology into the high frequency radio spectrum will result in significant detriment to the operation of FEMA radio systems such as FNARS," FEMA asserted. "FNARS radio operators normally conduct communications with signals that are barely above the ambient noise levels." FNARS HF stations, FEMA said, typically are in residential areas of the sort that BPL might serve. As part of the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA's perspectives on BPL could carry substantial weight at the FCC, which may issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making as early as February. The FCC's BPL Notice of Inquiry has attracted more than 5100 comments—many of them from the amateur community. FEMA said BPL also could render useless such "essential communications services" as the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and the Civil Air Patrol. FEMA and ARRL last year signed a Memorandum of Understanding that focuses on how Amateur Radio may coordinate with the agency in disasters and emergencies. Calling the HF spectrum "an invaluable and irreplaceable public safety resource," FEMA said there's no current alternative to HF in terms of meeting national security and emergency preparedness requirements at the national, state and

local levels. The agency advised the FCC to beef up its Part 15 rules to ensure no increase in interference levels to existing FCC or NTIA-licensed communication systems. Otherwise, FEMA predicted, "any noise increase inevitably would diminish the ability to maintain essential communications" and would "directly impair the safety of life and property." Likewise, FEMA pointed out, amateur HF transmitters could possibly interfere with and interrupt BPL service, leading consumers not familiar with Part 15 to blame licensed radio services. Concluded FEMA: "The purported benefits of BPL in terms of expanded services in certain communications sectors do not appear to outweigh the benefit to the overall public of HF radio capability as presently used by government, broadcasting and public safety users." Additional information about BPL and Amateur Radio is on the ARRL Web site, www.arrl.org/tis/info/html/plc/. To support the League's efforts in this area, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site, <https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>.

==>INTERNATIONAL MORSE CODE GETS NEW ITU HOME, NEW CHARACTER

The 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) may have eliminated the treaty requirement for prospective amateurs to demonstrate Morse code proficiency to gain HF access, but the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) hasn't forgotten Morse code altogether. In Geneva on December 5, the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Study Group 8 agreed on the wording of a Draft New Recommendation ITU-R M.[MORSE] that specifies the international Morse code character set and transmission procedures. It also includes a new Morse code character to cover the "@" symbol used in e-mail addresses. Once it's made available in English, French and Spanish, the draft new recommendation will go out to ITU member-states using a new procedure for simultaneous adoption and approval. On December 3, the draft new recommendation won the approval of Working Party 8A, which is responsible for the Land Mobile and Amateur services. Within the ITU, the international Morse code has been defined by the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), which is responsible for the public telephone and telegraph network—mostly landline. A couple of years ago, the ARRL pointed out to the US delegation to the ITU Radiocommunication Advisory Group that Morse code's role more properly resides in the radiocommunication realm, not wire, and should be the responsibility of ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R). The transfer was agreed to, and International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) President Larry Price, W4RA, proposed the draft new recommendation at the November-December Working Group 8A meeting. The draft new recommendation is almost unchanged from its ITU-T text. "No one wanted to disturb something with more than 150 years of history," said ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI. To keep up with the times, however, the IARU proposed adding a new character—the commercial "at" or @ symbol—to permit sending e-mail addresses in Morse code. The draft new recommendation proposes using the letters A and C run together (---.) to represent the @ symbol. While the draft new recommendation is still a working document, its expected to become a Recommendation within six months or so, pending approval by member-states.

Questions for Technician Class License

1. (T1A11) What is the "grace period" during which the FCC will renew an expired 10-year license?
 - A. 2 years
 - B. 5 years
 - C. 10 years
 - D. There is no grace period
2. (T1D11) What emission type may always be used for station identification, regardless of the transmitting frequency?
 - A. CW
 - B. RTTY
 - C. MCW
 - D. Phone
3. (T1G11) What is a transmission called that disturbs other communications?
 - A. Interrupted CW
 - B. Harmful interference
 - C. Transponder signals
 - D. Unidentified transmissions
4. (T2E08) Which of the following modes of communication are NOT available to a Technician class operator?
 - A. CW and SSB on HF bands
 - B. Amateur television (ATV)
 - C. EME (Moon bounce)
 - D. VHF packet, CW and SSB
5. (T6A10) What do the first three color bands on a resistor indicate?
 - A. The value of the resistor in ohms
 - B. The resistance tolerance in percent
 - C. The power rating in watts
 - D. The resistance material
6. (T9A04) How long should you make a quarter-wavelength vertical antenna for 28.450 MHz (measured to the nearest foot)?
 - A. 8 ft
 - B. 12 ft
 - C. 16 ft
 - D. 24 ft
7. (T0A10) On what value are the maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits based?
 - A. The square of the mass of the exposed body
 - B. The square root of the mass of the exposed body
 - C. The whole-body specific gravity (WBSG)
 - D. The whole-body specific absorption rate (SAR)
8. (T0B05) Which of the following categories describes most common amateur use of a hand-held transceiver?
 - A. Mobile devices
 - B. Portable devices
 - C. Fixed devices
 - D. None of these choices is correct

THE OHM TOWN NEWS
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January, 2004

Happy New Year!!

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Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club Log-in # _____
Application for the Year 2004 Membership
Dues are in effect January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Name _____ Call Sign _____ Date Paid _____
P.O. Box _____ Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____
Phone # for Auto-Dial Slot _____ E-mail _____

- Individual Membership - \$25 \$ _____

- Additional Family members in same household - \$3 ea. \$ _____
(One Newsletter per household)
- Names and call signs of additional family members Total \$ _____
- Name _____ Call Sign _____
- Name _____ Call Sign _____

- Are you an ARRL Member?

Mail your completed form and a check to: B.A.R.C., P.O. Box 111, Providence, Ut 84332-0111
B.A.R.C. is a non-profit organization

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