



THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

October 2004

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

Ham Profile

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

It appears the Ham drain from our Neighbor Spud state to the North is a perpetual phenomenon. We'll take em all, whenever. This months transplant is Millville resident Bart Esplin, KC7GCF and while we are at it, why not add a supportive XYL, the former Tina Zangraft, KC7QEV. Bart has held a tech license for about 10 years and his good spouse for about 7.

Bart sports a Yaesu 2600 mobile and puts it to good use in communications with the home QTH to check on the progress of the T bone steaks for dinner. Bart is currently employed with the facilities maintenance area for Logan City at the fairgrounds. So when you attend a function down at our Cache County fairgrounds the force behind keeping this place and others up to snuff is in good hands. Typical of our breed of guys, don't you think? He has also spent some time



in construction, and prior to going to work for Logan City, was the safety director for Weather Shield. Time for a little commercial here, Weather Shield makes some very respectable double pane windows and a few other good products. He made sure they were double pane rather than the double pane variety.

Bart first saw the light of day in Preston, ID., ultimately crossed the border at checkpoint Franklin and later graduated from Skyview. A good percentage of our mob have braved the halls of that institution, must have some good environment up there.

He has kicked around the country a bit, Seattle for a couple of years, the Bay area for another, three months in Florida. The latter must have provided a liberal education in what happens down there during the summer monsoon and hurricane season. If there were ever a proving ground for Hams and their supply of batteries, this year in the Sunshine state would be it.

Their family activities consist of camping with family,

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Presidents Message

It seems to me that the future of Amateur Radio is very bright in Cache Valley and the world. I have been following very closely the events in Florida following the Hurricanes that have hit. As I expected, amateur radio is playing a significant roll in the clean up effort. In some areas the cell sites are down, public safety towers and frequencies are down, it is a mess. Now I ask all of you, could you get on the air for some length of time without commercial power? Do you have gell-cell, solar or other means to power your radios?

This is a great lead into our October meeting. Jim Brown will present on solar power. He has a cabin in Idaho which is completely ran by solar power. Jim will have a lot of insight into it. It should be a great meeting. This meeting will be on October 9th at 10:00 am at the new sheriffs complex.

Summer activities were a great success. From field day to Top of Utah, LOTOJA and our picnic social. What a great adventure. A super big thanks goes out to all those who pitched in to help. You guys & gals are fantastic. I love working with each of you. I really enjoy the diversity of people we have and the varied interests in the club. This year we were joined by amateurs from Ogden, Idaho, and Wyoming for LOTOJA. I estimate that over 1000 hours was donated by hams to both LOTOJA and TOU this year.

I am excited about the new ECHO amateur satellite that just went into space. I heard it the other night and that got me all excited. APRS worked well on LOTOJA this year. It was cool to look at the map on my laptop to see where everyone was at. New APRS digipeaters are up on Cal Mountain west of Logan, and also on Mount Logan. We have BARC club members, the National Weather Service club, and Jeff Stork KD7BCJ to thank for this effort.

Now may I ask for help. We need at least 12 people to help with Jamboree on the air on October 16th. We will be helping 25 boys earn the radio merit badge. This will be a fun event. We will set up on Friday evening and start working HF that night. On Saturday we will continue with the



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Events Calendar

Upcoming Activities and Events

Most summer activities are over, but there are still a few to come. Sign up at club meeting or send an email to Tyler Griffith N7UWX@comcast.net. Do not worry if you have never done one before. These events are a great way to sharpen your communication skills.

October Club Meeting: October 9th 2004 10 AM

Solar Power with Jim Brown. BARC is pleased to announce our new meeting location will be the Cache County Sheriffs Complex on 200 North and 1225 West.

JOTA Jamboree on the Air - October 16, 17

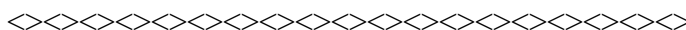
We will be involved with JOTA this year and with helping many Scouts earn their Radio Merit Badge. This is a great way to get some new interest in the hobby.

November Club Meeting: November 13th 2004 10 AM

November club meeting will be elections plus a chance to check on autodial slots and repeater info. Also a chance to show off home brew and kits that have been built.

December Club Meeting: December 9

The December club meeting is the Christmas Party. It will be held at the Cracker Barrel in Paradise Utah. The menu will be similar to last year, more information will be available on the Tuesday net and in the Ohm Town News next month.



Solar Power for October Club Meeting

Jim Brown was first licensed in 1977 as WB7UJP. He upgraded to Amateur Extra in 1981, and was issued the call sign of NA7G. His operating interests center around CW traffic nets, voice nets, and general operating. Add a sprinkle of DX, and a dash of Packet. On the technical side, he enjoys solar power projects and antenna projects. His first solar panels were installed at his residence in 1984, with a homemade charge controller. It's still working fine, and provides power for the ham station. His latest project includes a 1.8 KW solar installation at a cabin in SE Idaho, which provides power for the cabin, well, full time AC refrigerator, and a 1 KW HF station. His latest antenna project is a full wave loop on 160 meters, horizontally polarized, at ~ 50 feet high.

In the 80's, he served 2 terms as the Utah Section Manager. Also, he has served as the Utah Section Emergency Coordinator and as President of the Davis County Amateur Radio Club. Currently, he's the Utah Section Traffic Manager and Net Manager, Beehive Utah Net.

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(Presidents Message Continued from page 1)

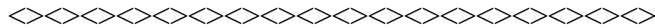
merit badge classes and work HF. Each boy needs to carry on a 10 minute QSO either on HF or VHF/UHF frequencies. We hope to set up 3 HF radios. Please email me if you can help us out.

Club elections will happen in November. Please consider running for office. Tom Baldwin will be heading up this years election committee. The club is on a roll. We need some willing hams to help keep it going that way. Now let me welcome Tammy Stevens, N7YTO as our new Vice President. She was elected at the last meeting. She has already jumped in with both feet, and will keep me on my toes. I am so excited to have her on board. She is going to get our club tee-shirts and hats a going. Yea!

It is time to start thinking about next year. What ideas for club meetings do you have? What speakers do you know of that we could invite? What should we do for our build it party? Who will help organize some bunny hunts? We will talk about these things at our next two club meetings. So bring a friend, and come join the fun. Join us on the air, get the repeaters a hopping.

Until next time, 73's.

Kevin Reeve N7RXE



(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

snowmobiling, hiking and of course firing up the rigs to keep tabs on things.

Tina was born down in the coastal state that is slated to slide into the ocean sometime shortly, in the Pasadena area. They were introduced by friends here in Logan and have two harmonics, Tyler, 12 and Derik, 9. Tyler seems to be the most likely prospect for the passing of the HT to the next generation and Bart indicates a little persuasion might be in order.

Bart has been involved with the Search and Rescue team here in Cache Valley for some 10 years and these are the guys you might not hear about very often, however when emergencies arise, especially out in the boonies, we are fortunate to have men of their caliber who respond PDQ.

Those of you who may have monitored one such recent event as the rollover near Mt. Logan a couple of weeks ago received a little insight on their efforts. They were on the road pronto, up to the site and coordinated the arrival of a high altitude chopper which transported one victim to McKay Dee in Ogden to take care of some serious back injuries. Another fortunate effort was the response to frantic reports of some snow cave collapses near the State Road sheds near the summit in Logan canyon last March. The call came at 4:30 am, a blizzard was in progress, portions of the canyon were closed, it was learned that several scout troops were scattered not only at the State Road sheds, but along the Limber Pine trail as well.

Arrival at the Limber Pine site presented some challenges, the sites were covered by drifting snow. After some anxious probing where a ski or two was seen protruding

from the white stuff, the Eskimo suites were found, and other than a bit of hypothermia, fortunately all were safe. With a little more time it could have been a disaster of the first order and we are indebted to those who are ready and willing to assist.

Many other such instances where only Amateur Radio communications resulted in some needed medication, filled the bill.

Bart's wife Tina recognized the value of some reliable communications with hubby out in the hinterlands often, she got her license, and they both feel a bit more secure in everyone's activities.

That's what makes our endeavors worth the time, don't you think?

Good on Ya. 73s



The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 34 August 27, 2004

AMSAT Lab building is Hurricane Charley victim:

Structural damage to the airport hangar housing the AMSAT Laboratory in Orlando—caused when Hurricane Charley made its way across Florida August 13--has led authorities to condemn the building. The storm, with winds of 100 MPH or greater, passed directly over the Orlando Executive Airport, which is home to the Lab. AMSAT now must begin a search for a new facility to support development of the Eagle satellite project. On the plus side, the Lab's equipment and inventory are in good shape, and AMSAT members in the vicinity weathered the storm with relatively minor damage. On the minus side, AMSAT has little time to move out and find temporary storage for its belongings so the building can be razed, and its insurance does not cover the costs of temporary storage or moving to another facility. AMSAT—a 501©(3) organization—invites tax-deductible donations to its "Hurricane Fund" to get the AMSAT Lab back in operation as soon as possible <<http://www.amsat.org>>. Photos by Lou McFadin, W5DID, are on the AMSAT Web site <<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/lab/>>.—Rick Hambly, W2GPS, via AMSAT News Service

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==>Cayman Islands emergency traffic exempt from third-party traffic rules:

Because of changes to the international Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003, the FCC will not enforce third-party traffic rules contained in §97.115 of the FCC Amateur Radio Service rules for the passage of emergency and health-and-welfare traffic. The FCC continues to evaluate necessary revisions to the wording of Part 97 to reflect the WRC-03 changes, but Commission staff has assured ARRL that it will not sanction amateurs passing appropriate emergency-related traffic with stations in the Cayman Islands, with which the US has no third-party traffic agreement.



Answers to questions on page 6:
1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-B, 5-B, 6-B, 7-D

The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 35 September 3, 2004
"The Beeb" to air program on Amateur Radio and 9/11:
 BBC Radio 4 this weekend will air a documentary on Amateur Radio's involvement in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The half-hour program, "Unsung Heroes," will be broadcast Saturday, September 4, at 1030 UTC. It will remain available on the BBC's archives for one month after that. "Through moving interviews, sensitive use of ham radio transmissions and some harrowing accounts, 'Unsung Heroes' reveals the little-known story of the 9/11 ham radio operators who provided vital communication networks for the rescue agencies," the BBC program listing says. "Hams, often mocked for their obsessive hobby, believe that September 11th became Amateur Radio's finest hour. Stephen Evans, the BBC's North American Business Correspondent, witnessed the attacks that day and meets with ham operators who witnessed the terrorist attacks or lost friends and relatives on September 11th and still helped to support the search-and-rescue operation." Mark Phillips, KC2ENI/G7LTT, says the program, produced by Kate Bissell, features N2NOV, KF2EO, KE2UN, AB2IZ, "and a whole host of others," including himself. It was recorded during the last week of June. The program also be available in MP3 format on Phillips' Web site <<http://www.g7ltt.com/audio-files/911r4.mp3>> starting September 4.

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The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 36 September 10, 2004
==>HURRICANE FRANCES RECOVERY
CONTINUES WITH AMATEUR RADIO HELP

As Florida recovers from Hurricane Frances, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) members throughout the state this week continued to support communication for shelters, local emergency operation centers (EOCs) and anywhere else they were needed. From Palm Beach County, Southern Florida Assistant Section Manager Jeff Beals, WA4AW, reports that ARES/RACES activated September 2, prior to Frances' making landfall. "Over 50 amateurs assisted with communications support during the Frances operation," Beals said of the Palm Beach response. "Some positions were manned by their operators for the first 36 hours before relief was available." He worked with Palm Beach Emergency Coordinator Dave Messinger, N4QPM, in the county emergency operations center (EOC). Like much of Southern Florida, Palm Beach County remains in the recovery stage, and some areas still were without commercial power or telephone service at week's end. While shelters there have closed, the EOC remained up and running to handle logistical communications. Over the Labor Day weekend, hams were called on to help back up the county's public safety radio system after it went down for about 11 hours. While most of the traffic was routine, hams did relay a fire call. The Melbourne Hamfest, scheduled for September 11 and 12, was canceled due to the effects of Hurricane Frances. Southern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator Jim Goldsberry, KD4GR, said at week's end that relief operators still were needed in Brevard County. West Central Florida SM Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, also was looking for volunteers for standby relief duty. In Volusia County, ARES/RACES was active in the Daytona Beach

area. Mike Glennon, KB4JHU, came from Tullahoma, Tennessee, with his communications trailer to pitch in. Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, of Amateur Radio//Video News, reports that seven hams from Tennessee and Georgia turned out to relieve exhausted Florida locals. "Mike was stationed at one of five assistance centers in the county where residents could pick up ice and supplies," Pearce said, adding that Volusia County ARES/RACES EC Fred Magliacane, KF4VRS, managed to keep going despite very little sleep during the activation. In Clay County, southwest of Jacksonville in northern Florida, Vern Ferris, W4NEK, reports that his ARES team provided shelter communications over the Labor Day weekend until telephone service there was restored. In a comments posted on the ARRL mentor reflector, Gary Johanson, WD4NKA, in Deltona, Florida, said even Hiram Percy Maxim would be impressed by the "old fashioned hamming" he monitored on the emergency nets. His family evacuated to Orlando, and he's still awaiting the restoration of electrical power. He said cell phones were useless in large areas of Volusia County until well after Frances left the peninsula. "Ham Radio may be a lot of things," Johanson said, "but one thing the twin storms have proven to us on the peninsula is this: Ham radio is absolutely relevant."

==>HURRICANE WATCH NET FACING STORMS' CHALLENGES

With hurricanes threatening almost at the rate of one per week since mid-August, the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) has had a busy time of things. Following a brief respite after seven straight days in operation, the HWN reactivated on 14.325 MHz at week's end for Hurricane Ivan—a powerful and dangerous storm that attained Category 5 level this week before throttling back to a Category 4 storm. After wreaking havoc in the Windward Islands, Grenada, Trinidad and the northern coast of Venezuela, Ivan was expected to hit Jamaica by early September 11—if not sooner. Reports to the net from maritime mobiles, primarily in Grenada, indicated severe damage from Ivan, which was packing 145 MPH winds as it approached Jamaica. "We will be listening for reporting stations in Jamaica before turning our attention to Cuba, which is next in the path," HWN Manager Mike Pilgrim, K5MP, said. He said he anticipates the HWN will remain active during 20-meter band openings until Ivan no longer represents a threat to populated areas. If Ivan continues on its current track as of week's end, it will be in the Straits of Florida by September 13, according to National Hurricane Center projections. Pilgrim, who lives in Boca Raton in southern Florida, said the storm appears to be a threat to the entire state. Authorities already have issued a mandatory evacuation order for tourists and mobile home dwellers in the Keys, he said, but given the chancy logistics of evacuating, Pilgrim is planning to hunker down for the storm, should it arrive. Pilgrim says he just got electricity back September 6—he has an auxiliary generator for his household and a deep-cycle battery for his ham gear—but he didn't have telephone service, including cellular, until September 8. He says half of his community remains in the dark. The HWN works hand-in-hand with WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center in Miami to gather ground-level weather data and damage reports from Amateur Radio volun-

teers in a storm's path. The net relays these to forecasters via WX4NHC, which regularly checks into the net and also disseminates weather updates. The recent hurricane activations also have generated an unprecedented level of activity on the HWN Web site, Pilgrim said. As a result, the HWN has issued a plea for contributions to purchase additional Web capacity <<http://www.hwn.org/home/hwn-newsletter.html#help>>. The Hurricane Watch Net Web site <<http://www.hwn.org>> offers access to the latest weather forecasts as well as storm graphics. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) on 14.265 MHz closed down at September 7 at 2100 UTC following five straight days of operation in response to Hurricane Frances. During that time, the net handled 181 health-and-welfare inquiries. "I continue to marvel at the stellar effort that amateur operators give across the nation when catastrophe strikes," said SATERN National Coordinator Pat McPherson, WW9E. Some SATERN volunteer operators put in 14-hour days to guarantee that people were helped, he said. As of week's end, SATERN was standing by to assist if needed in response to Hurricane Ivan.

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**The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 37 September 17, 2004
 ==>AMATEUR RADIO SWINGS INTO ACTION IN
 STORM-STRICKEN GULF REGION**

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) teams were ready and waiting as Hurricane Ivan devastated entire sections of the US Gulf Coast early September 16. Packing 115 MPH winds as it made landfall, Ivan zeroed in on the Mobile Bay area of Alabama, but because of its huge girth, the storm wrought widespread death and destruction in the Florida Panhandle and also affected Mississippi. Below-sea-level New Orleans was spared major flooding, however. Alabama Section Emergency Coordinator Jay Isbell, KA4KUN, said ham radio has been helping relief agencies, especially in the hard-hit southernmost counties. "Right now the adrenaline's still up," he said September 16 of volunteers staffing a statewide ARES communication network—an HF net with liaisons to local repeaters and including all of the state's emergency operations centers. "Most everybody south of us is operating on emergency power." In Baldwin and Mobile counties—which straddle Mobile Bay—telephone service was out, so ham radio was providing a substantial communication link, Isbell said. "We're giving their messages priority." Most traffic has been logistical—requests for shelter cots, tarpaulins and generators—"but they've also asked for three four-wheel drive vehicles and a helicopter for search and rescue as well as damage assessment," he said. ARES teams along the Gulf have been providing communication support for the Red Cross, The Salvation Army and the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief organization. ARES already is assisting with damage assessment activity, for the first time using Global Positioning System units and computerized mapping as an aid. ARRL Alabama SM Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, praised Isbell's efforts and said he's proud of Alabama's radio amateurs. "Many amateurs stepped up to provide communications and assistance," he said. "Several amateurs traveled to Southern Alabama before Ivan to help get ready for the hurricane." He said others traveled to the Mobile area to help emergency

managers "and people they don't even know."

In Northern Florida, Western Panhandle ARES District Emergency Coordinator Bill Hayden, WY8O, reported damage assessment was under way in Okaloosa County, where the storm took out several repeaters and telephone service. In southern Santa Rosa County, massive flooding and several fatalities were reported, and refugees were forced to take shelter. In Escambia County, five shelters and four hospitals sustained storm damage, and several people died. The hurricane destroyed the Interstate 10 bridge connecting Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, cutting off residents and relief workers alike. At week's end, Northern Florida Section Traffic Manager Dale Sewell, N4SGQ, was working up a list of relief personnel and waiting on how to get them into the affected area. "Having lived in Pensacola for 35 years, I know the complications of being surrounded on so many sides by water," Sewell said. "I just never imagined that all the routes would be cut off simultaneously." He said Escambia County was left virtually without power, which utilities say could take three weeks to restore. In Mississippi, ARRL SM Malcolm Keown, W5XX, reported that outside of some "significant interference" the West Gulf ARES Net operation went smoothly. Most traffic was tactical, he said, to help the Red Cross with needed equipment and supplies. The net, on 7285 and 3873 kHz, operates in accordance with a memorandum of understanding among the ARRL Louisiana, Mississippi and South Texas sections. Keown says ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, stepped in to restore the fallen dipole antenna of West Gulf ARES Net National Traffic System Coordinator Carolyn Womack, KC5OZT, who's also North Texas Section Traffic Manager. "He went over and fixed it, and by 4 o'clock she was back on the air, so chalk one up for the ARRL president!" Keown said. The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) <<http://www.hwn.org>> on 14.325 MHz secured operations for Hurricane Ivan September 16, but only to take another breather before an anticipated reactivation for Hurricane Jeanne in a few days. The nearly continuous activations over the past four weeks have taken a toll on HWN members, HWN Manager Mike Pilgrim, K5MP, told ARRL, and several were affected by storm-related damage. The HWN coordinates its activities with WX4NHC <<http://www.wx4nhc.org>> at the National Hurricane Center to gather real-time ground-level weather data and damage reports from Amateur Radio volunteers in a storm's path and relay these to forecasters. This hurricane season WX4NHC has been taking advantage of IRLP and EchoLink via the new VOIPWX Net <<http://www.voipwx.net/>>, which also provides streaming audio. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) <<http://www.satern.org>> on 14.265 MHz has been handling health-and-welfare inquiries in the wake of the recent round of hurricanes. The net also handles emergency communications from storm-affected areas. SATERN also takes health-and-welfare inquiries via its Web site. The National Weather Service was warning areas still in the path of the remnants of Hurricane Ivan that they could be in for heavy rainfall and possible tornadoes.



Questions for General Class License

1. (G1A03) What are the frequency privileges for a General Class control operator 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. (G1C02) What is the maximum transmitting power an amateur station may use on 7080 kHz?
 - A. 200 watts PEP output
 - B. 1000 watts PEP output
 - C. 1500 watts PEP output
 - D. 2000 watts PEP output
3. (G1D04) What minimum examination elements must an applicant pass for a Technician Class operator license with Morse code credit to operate on the HF bands?
 - A. Element 2 only
 - B. Elements 1 and 2
 - C. Elements 2 and 3
 - D. Elements 1, 2 and 3
4. (G1E12) What must be done at an amateur radio station while it is transmitting third party messages?
 - A. Keep a station log of when the message was handled
 - B. Use local or remote station control
 - C. Identify both stations that handle the message
 - D. Use local, remote or automatic station control
5. (G2A09) Which of the following statements is true of a lower sideband transmission?
 - A. It is called lower sideband because the lower sideband is greatly attenuated
 - B. It is called lower sideband because the lower sideband is the only sideband transmitted, since the upper sideband is suppressed
 - C. The lower sideband is wider than the upper sideband
 - D. The lower sideband is the only sideband that is authorized on the 160-, 75- and 40-meter amateur bands
6. (G4B12) What is one way a noise bridge might be used?
 - A. Determining an antenna's gain in dBi
 - B. Pre-tuning an antenna tuner
 - C. Determining the directivity of an antenna
 - D. Determining the line loss of the antenna system
7. (G4D08) What maximum size fuse or circuit breaker should be used in a household appliance circuit using AWG number 12 wiring?
 - A. 100 amperes
 - B. 60 amperes
 - C. 30 amperes
 - D. 20 amperes

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