



THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

March 2005

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

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

First of all congratulations to Kevin Kessler KE7AFF, and his sons Tyson KE7CMK & Kyle for finding the hidden transmitter last month after club meeting. Thanks to Paul and Bonnie Hoth for hiding the bunny. I hope you are getting those antennas ready for the upcoming bunny hunt on March 12th. Please note that we will meet at the Old Main parking lot just outside the VEC test session at 10:00 AM for the hunt. This will be our March club meeting. As of today it shows the temps may just hit the 40's.

We had two great presentations at the club meeting. Eugene Bodrero showed off a spreadsheet he has developed to help in the design of a solar system. A pretty slick device for calculating all kinds of things from battery capacity to charging rates, and solar panel wattage needs. Bob Wood did a demonstration on soldering PL-259 connectors onto coax cable. Some great tips, and I thought I knew how to do it.

Our budget for the year was approved. If you missed the presentation, Ted McArthur, AC7II our repeater chairman talked about plans for the .20 repeater system. A site has been located now, and final preps are underway. Club members approved funds as part

of the budget to support this effort. The .20 repeater will be put up on a hill near Clarkston and provide excellent valley repeater coverage. We had an eye opener this winter when our repeater along with all the other systems went off the air at Mt. Logan. We hear upgrades to the power system are planned for the peak, but we learned how vulnerable we are. The .20 will be linked in to the Mt. Logan system and will provide another hill top repeater as a back-up to Mt. Logan. This will be a great asset to the

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HAM PROFILE

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

Those of you who missed the interesting presentations at the last club meeting ought to repent and catch the rest of these gatherings. Our club leadership have done an excellent job in scheduling some first rate programs and one was to hear from Eugene Bodrero, AC7DG on the care and keeping of batteries, solar cells, and other good thoughts. Eugene sports an extra ticket and has been licensed since 93. He and his good spouse the former Kristi Little, KC7UKF, sport a couple of HTs with a vertical on the family's prime mover.

He and his better half have been involved in a couple of the club activities such as Lotoja and others. When asked if he had plans for the traditional 50-100' tower in the back yard he did confess some inner thoughts about such a thing. He is presently deeply involved in drawing up some plans for their new castle out in Newton. He plans on using some different types of Insulated Concrete Forms. If this sparks some interest, he can fill you in on this one. As soon as the nuts and bolts get down on paper and through the maze of permits, dollars, waivers, dollars, clearances, dollars, and more of the same, he'll get the procedure underway.

Eugene was born down in the Sunshine state in Long Beach, Kristi in San Diego. Before he mastered the art of walking, breathing clean air, & paying taxes, his parents shifted the crew to Cache Valley, Mendon in particular. He graduated from Mountain Crest over Hyrum way and shortly decided to spend a hitch in the U.S. Marine Corps and became familiar with the ways of the military in San Diego. After satisfying those requirements, he served a mission assignment for his

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Club Officers



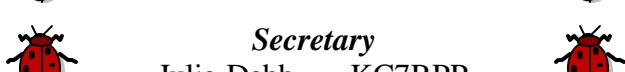
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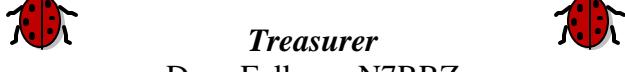
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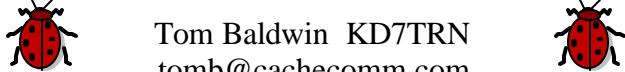
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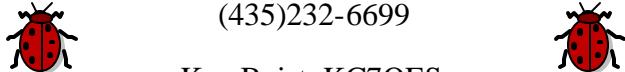


Board Members

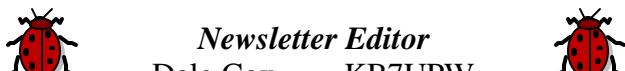
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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

March 12 - Club Meeting - Bunny Hunt
 (for this month Meet at the Old Main Parking lot at USU)

March 16 - ARES/RACES Meeting

April 23 - Northern Utah Hamfest - Ogden

BARC Club Meetings are normally on Saturday mornings at 10:00 A.M. on the 2nd floor in the EOC at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex on 200 North and 1225 West, Logan, Utah

[BARC] ARES/RACES meeting

The next ARES meeting will be Wednesday March 16 at 7:00 pm at the Sheriff's Office. 1225 West Valley View, Logan. I would like to thank all those that were able to attend the last ARES/RACES meeting. We had a good turn out. The presentation and other information have been posted at <http://home.comcast.net/~noutares>. For those who are not able to attend, but are interested in emergency communication, please download the ARES application and mail it to:

Tyler Griffiths N7UWX
 779 South 600 East
 River Heights, Utah 84321

Or you can deliver it personally. You are also encouraged to download the RACES application, but, it needs to be sent to the State RACES officer in Salt Lake.

VE test sessions are your opportunity to become a ham, or upgrade your current license. Exam sessions are held in Logan every few months, *usually* the second Saturday in March, June, September, and December. Other sessions are held often in the region. It is possible to find a test session every month somewhere in northern Utah or southeastern Idaho.

Next VE Test Session in Cache Valley:

Date: **March 12 th 2005 - 8:00 AM**
 Location: **Utah State University -
 Old Main Building 4th Floor**

Contact: Heidi Black AC7ZC 753-7487
 or Beanie Lofthouse KJ7LQ 245-6632
 Cost: \$14.00

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

(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

faith down in the Southern Hemisphere in Brazil in 87-89. Learning Portuguese, wow !!

He spent some time at USU in Electronic Technology, worked briefly for a Radio and Telemetry firm then accepted a position at Wescor in 2001. He's involved in Program Management development and working on such good things as design work on computer terminals used in the trucking industry. He talked about some interesting applications of GPS technology in the trucking industry and even in the shipping industry with units on individual shipping containers. We see this type of technology in an increasing number of our chariots. Our kids will be next and perhaps we could disable ours when we head for the BARC club meeting or on a bunny hunt. He even mentioned some rather covert techniques that were being used to shield some of the trucking GPS units when drivers needed to stop for a glass of buttermilk. Our kids wouldn't be far behind, opposition in all things, you know.

He and his good spouse first met here in Cache Valley, must be the air, smog, or cheese. They have

three harmonics, Dallin 9, Cannon & Bailey Ann. The middle one is the noisy one. Eugene likes outdoor activities with the kids and he and his good wife have a unique creative capability not shared by many. Kristi has come up with a rather unusual capability of making their own soap, using various oils and perfumes. Now how many of you electronic wizards have tried that one? Not to be out done, Eugene and perhaps one or two of the kids have gotten interested in Rocketry and he makes his own rocket propulsion stuff. Not sure whether this activity was a spin off from the soap business or not, however the soap wouldn't lift the rocket off the ground, but the rocket go stuff would make some interesting noisy soap in the tub.

Kristi prides herself in being a great home maker, a great ham partner, and has felt the family activity of Amateur Radio is an asset in their association. Good on Ya.

Eugene has also spent some time in the camera repair business, if you have one that doesn't do what it was designed to do, give him a call, he'll tell you which button to punch.

73s gang welcome to the mob.

Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club Log-in # _____
Application for the Year 2005 Membership
Dues are in effect January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005

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

(Presidents Message Continued from page 1)

club and community. We expect it to give great hand-held coverage of the valley and assist where there are shadows. Thanks to the club members for supporting this effort.

There was an ARES/RACES meeting in February of all interested hams. I was out of town for work and missed it, but I hear good reports. We are starting to get a lot of requests to be ready to assist with possible flooding, storm watching, and assisting other agencies. Hope you are up to the task. I believe the emergency preparedness and communication are an important part of the hobby, along with the APRS, HFing, Satellite, IRLPing, and DXing we all love to do. Speaking of Satellites does anyone know of a good speaker on the subject of Amateur Satellites?

Now lets all pray for Spring. Don't you think we deserve it.

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The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 07 February 18, 2005

==>EARTH RARELY OUT OF SIGHT OR MIND FOR ISS CREW

While it's 220 miles distant, Earth seems never far from the thoughts of the International Space Station's Expedition 10 crew. Gazing upon the home planet from their vantage point in space is among the most favorite activities of those who have done duty tours aboard the ISS, and the current crew members are no exception. Speaking via Amateur Radio from NA1SS February 10, Expedition 10 Commander Leroy Chiao, KE5BRW, told youngsters at Fairview Elementary School in Mt Prospect, Illinois, that his new hobby is taking pictures of Earth. Chiao also informed Fairview Principal Kerry Swalwell that earthly topics dominate conversations between himself and crewmate Salizhan Sharipov. "We talk about things that you'd talk about on the ground, I guess," Chiao said. "We talk about the day's work, we talk about things we've seen out the window, and we talk about our families and friends and things we're looking forward to when we come back to Earth." Swalwell's "bonus" question came after her pupils had exhausted their own list of 20 questions, and the ISS was still in radio range. In his answers to the youngsters' questions, Chiao spoke of missing his wife and family on Earth and of looking forward to having a real meal when he gets back. A dozen Fairview students took part in the contact, while parents, teachers and classmates looked on. One youngster wanted to know about Chiao's funniest moment in space. The astronaut described an optical illusion he'd experienced while looking out the ISS window. "One time I thought I saw a satellite, and it turned out it was just a speck of dust about three feet from the window," he said. "It was being very brightly lit up by the sun." To a question about animals in space, Chiao quipped, "We don't have any animals on board. The only animals on board are the two of us right now." In his previous missions, he recounted, some small fish and jellyfish

accompanied the space travelers. Chiao visited the school in May 2004, and he has kept in touch with the youngsters via e-mail. The approximately 10-minute direct VHF contact between NA1SS in space and AJ9N at the Chicago-area school was arranged via the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Handling Earth-station duties was veteran ARISS mentor Charlie Sufana, AJ9N. ARISS is an international educational outreach with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

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==>TWO AMATEURS RECEIVE PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Two radio amateurs have received the President's Volunteer Service Award. President George W. Bush personally presented the award to Thomas J. "T. J." Powell, N8UIR, of Northfield, Ohio. Powell, is an active volunteer with the Northeast Ohio Medical Reserve Corps, a partner program of Citizen Corps, which provides medical support services for public events and emergency situations. As chief of NEOMRC and a certified emergency medical technician, Powell volunteers 800 to 1000 hours per year, helping with logistics, planning, Amateur Radio operations and first-aid for charitable fundraising events throughout Northeast Ohio. In addition, he assists local fire departments and emergency medical service agencies during incidents that impact public health. Bush made the presentation during a January 27 visit to Cleveland. The White House also honored ARRL member John H. Bauer, W4AWM, of Burke, Virginia, with a President's Volunteer Service Award. Bauer received the award January 29 in recognition of more than 500 hours of volunteer work in the Volunteer In Police Service (VIPS) program. Bauer is assigned to the Crime Prevention Office of the West Springfield District Station, Fairfax County Police. "My assignment consists of many public relations and administrative duties as well as participating in various training drills for SWAT teams and other police activities," he explained. Presenting Bauer's award during a ceremony for himself and other recipients was the Fairfax County Chief of Police. Bauer also received a certificate of appreciation from the Fairfax County Police Department. Bauer says he always wears his call sign belt buckle when on duty, and that's resulted in his meeting two police officers who also are hams. The buckle also invites questions from people who want to know what it represents. "This is a great door opener to talk about my favorite hobby," Bauer said.

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==>ARES/RACES drill participation draws FEMA praise:

Calhoun County, Alabama, ARES/RACES participated February 9 in a communication drill in which the scenario was a nerve gas release, and Amateur Radio the only communication system available to the local emergency operations center (EOC). The exercise, the annual Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) conducted by the Anniston Army Depot and the Calhoun County Alabama Emergency Management Agency, was aimed at checking the coordination of communications at the EOCs. Calhoun

County Emergency Coordinator Randall Landers, KG4EUD, managed his team's activities from the EOC, while Alabama Section Emergency Coordinator Jay Isbell, KA4KUN, and staff headed up communications at the US Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Noble Training Center at Ft McClellan. A mission of the Anniston Army Depot is to incinerate stock-piles of chemical weapons. In the exercise scenario, 36 land mines explode releasing VX nerve agent. The ARES/RACES team provided updates and deployed volunteers to hospitals and schools and to Emergency Activation System radio stations, where they disseminated official news releases. "A FEMA Region 4 representatives said that the Amateur Radio group was the best they have evaluated, and that their knowledge of radio and communications was excellent," reported Alabama Section Manager Greg Sarratt W4OZK.

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 08 February 25, 2005

==>AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT OF 2005 INTRODUCED

At the urging of the ARRL, Rep Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) has introduced The Amateur Radio Spectrum Act of 2005 into the US House of Representatives. The bill, designated HR 691, has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee where Bilirakis serves as vice chairman. Like previous versions of the proposal, the current measure 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. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, expressed his appreciation to Bilirakis this week. "As president of the American Radio League and on behalf of the more than 670,000 federally licensed Amateur Radio operators throughout the country, I would like to thank you for once again sponsoring the 'Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act,'" Haynie told the Florida Republican. "As you know, this legislation is vital for ensuring that the Amateur Radio Service, the only 100-percent fail safe emergency communication capability, remains a viable public safety option." HR 691 references Amateur Radio's role in providing "voluntary, noncommercial radio service, particularly emergency communications," and it points out that hams have "consistently and reliably" provided communication support in the event of emergencies and disasters including tornadoes and hurricanes, chemical spills, forest fires and rail accidents. As the measure notes, FCC actions already have led to the loss of at least 107 MHz of spectrum to radio amateurs. Rep Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) has signed on as the bill's first co-sponsor. Bartlett chairs the Projection Forces Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee. One of three scientists in the 109th Congress, Bartlett also is a senior member of the House Science Committee. Efforts now will focus on attracting additional cosponsors for the legislation. The League is encouraging members to urge their congressional representatives to sign aboard HR 691. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr-691-sample-letter.html>>. More than 100 law-

makers agreed to cosponsor similar legislation in the 108th Congress, where it was designated HR 713. Work is proceeding to have identical legislation introduced in the US Senate. The text of HR 691 is available on the Government Printing Office Web site <http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=9_cong_bills&do_cid=f:h691ih.txt.pdf>. For general guidance on the best methods of contacting your members of Congress, see "Communicating with Congress," by Derek Riker, KB3JLF, on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/news/bandthreat/0304046.pdf>>.



==>HAM RADIO SAVES A HAM IN ALASKA

Two Alaskan hikers on a day outing in rugged mountains near Anchorage saw their afternoon turn into something entirely unexpected February 12. One of them—Jesse Jones, KL1RK—slipped and fell more than 200 feet down a steep ravine, losing his snowshoes in the process. Jones found himself trapped between a low overhang on one side and a swift-moving stream on the other. Even worse was the fact that his descent could continue into the water at any moment, and almost certain death from hypothermia. With more than 10 feet on the ground, the loss of his snowshoes meant he could not walk out. On the plus side, Jones had taken along his 2-meter handheld transceiver. After several unsuccessful tries, he finally was able to access the wide-area WL7CVG repeater atop Mt Susitna, almost 40 miles distant. "As a control operator for the repeater, I heard his weak 'Mayday! Mayday! Mayday!' call just a few minutes after 4 PM local time," reports Jim Wiley, KL7CC. "I immediately called 911 and was placed in contact with the local fire department rescue coordinator. I was able to pass on Jesse's messages to the local rescue coordinator, including coordinates from a GPS unit he was carrying." Wiley says the rescue coordinator's office called out the local mountain rescue group and the Alaska State Troopers, who immediately left for the scene. The rescue team met with Jones's climbing partner, who had been able to hike out to a place where he could assist the rescuers. Jones was able to keep in touch via 2 meters to report his condition, but his signal into the repeater was marginal. Although uninjured, the sub-zero cold was numbing his extremities to the point that he was having trouble operating his transceiver. Unable to execute the rescue themselves, the team called an Air National Guard unit, which flew a helicopter to the scene. While the presence of high-voltage power lines just above Jones' position complicated matters, the chopper was able to lower some para-rescue jumpers to a nearby location, from which they could rappel to his position and, after a few hours, extricate him. Briefly hospitalized for a checkup, Jones was released just before midnight, cold and a bit hungry, but otherwise okay. Wiley says several local hams also assisted the effort, either directly or by their connection with local emergency service groups. Additional details of the rescue and photos are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2005/02/24/1/>>.

Questions for Technician Class License

1. (T1B11) If you are operating on 223.50 MHz, in what amateur band are you operating?
 - A. 15 meters
 - B. 10 meters
 - C. 2 meters
 - D. 1.25 meters
2. (T3A06) What type of solar radiation is most responsible for ionization in the outer atmosphere?
 - A. Thermal
 - B. Non-ionized particle
 - C. Ultraviolet
 - D. Microwave
3. (T5C03) What kind of payment is allowed for third-party messages sent by an amateur station?
 - A. Any amount agreed upon in advance
 - B. Donation of repairs to amateur equipment
 - C. Donation of amateur equipment
 - D. No payment of any kind is allowed
4. (T7B07) What is the lowest frequency of electrical energy that is usually known as a radio frequency?
 - A. 20 Hz
 - B. 2,000 Hz
5. (T8D15) If the ends of a half-wavelength dipole antenna (mounted at least a half-wavelength high) point east and west, which way would the antenna send out radio energy?
 - A. Equally in all directions
 - B. Mostly up and down
 - C. Mostly north and south
 - D. Mostly east and west
6. (T0A02) Which electrical circuit draws high current?
 - A. An open circuit
 - B. A dead circuit
 - C. A closed circuit
 - D. A short circuit
7. (T0F08) Above what power level is a routine RF radiation evaluation required for a VHF station?
 - A. 25 watts peak envelope power (PEP) measured at the antenna input
 - B. 50 watts peak envelope power (PEP) measured at the antenna input
 - C. 100 watts input power to the final amplifier stage
 - D. 250 watts output power from the final amplifier stage

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March, 2005

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