

## THE OHM TOWN NEWS Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

December 2005

http://www.barconline.org

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE** 

### HAM PROFILE

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Merry Christmas everyone. What a great year this has been. I have enjoyed my service as president of the club and decided to run again. Thanks to those who have confidence in me. I appreciate the efforts of the Board. On the day of board meeting, I was sick with the flu (even after having the flu shot) but board meeting went on without me, and early indications are that they have the January club meeting planned out.



December is our Christmas Dinner Party at the Blue Bird in RSVP's have Logan. passed due dates, but you might be able to ask Tammy if anyone has canceled. Please realize if you RSVP'd that we will have to pay for your dinner even if you do not show.

At our November election meeting we broke up into three

groups that discussed different topics. One group took on nets, another group recruitment, and the third on club activities. We were excited to have 5 recently licensed hams and one new valley resident who has been a ham for some time join us. It was great to get their perspective on what they would like. Out of all this came the idea to hold a ham radio open-house for our January Club meeting. The idea is for all club members to be there and to bring someone who is not a ham, and we will have several stations set-up to show off different things in ham radio. We will be doing some advertising for this in the papers and radio to get some interest. This will be in preparation for a ham radio class to be held January – March time frame in preparation for our next exam session. The Board would like to focus this

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

We'll forgo the annual Christmas quiz and substitute one of more stature. SDL, NSRL, HRL, JPL, AFRL, NRL, SGL, & SRL. If you were to be asked what the preceding acronyms have in common, your answer that they all have the letter L in the combination would only get an honorable mention, however the distinction of note is that they are all top notch research labs with an emphasis on space work. Our own SDL (Space Dynamics Lab) was listed first and in my opinion that's where it ought to be.

A few minutes spent with its Deputy Director, Harry Ames KG7RC verified the quality of leadership at the helm of an institution of which we can all be proud. Harry has held his present ticket, advanced class (rare species) for some 10 years or more, previous other calls before that, also a commercial Radio Telephone license (also a rare species). He has an assortment of Ham gear in the family castle which gets good coverage astride



the quake fault up against the hills in Providence. No he's not concerned. He's been a member of our astute organization for several years and although we might (Continued on page 3)

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## **Club Officers**

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# **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

December 7, 6:00 P.M.- Christmas Party Christmas party is on Wednesday the 7th at the Blue Bird on main street in Logan. Prime Rib Buffet. Limited seating, there may be a few seats left, contact Tammy Stevens N7YTO. \$15.00 per plate. Of course the great prize giveaways, and another surprise package.

January 14, 2006 - Club Meeting Open House to show off Ham Radio, bring a friend

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

ARES Meetings are usually held on the Third Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M. at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex. Contact Tyler Griffiths for more information or if you want to be involved.

#### **Special Event**

We are inviting all amateur radio operators -especially the old-timers - to the Golden Corral for breakfast on the second Saturday of January at 8:15 AM for an opportunity to meet other hams with your interest. This is a buy your own breakfast event. Several older hams with interests in HF and CW have asked who else around is interested in these areas. Now is your chance to come out and meet each other and socialize. Anyone old or young, especially those interested in HF and CW communications are invited to attend this event.

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#### BARC Club Officers for the new year, 2006

President: Kevin Reeve N7RXE Vice President: Jacob Anawalt KD7YKO Secretary: Tammy Stevens N7YTO Treasurer: Dave Fullmer N7RRZ

> Board Ted McArthur AC7II Tom Baldwin KD7TRN Ken Buist KC7QES

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

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## **OHM TOWN NEWS**

**DEC 2005** 

#### (Presidents Message Continued from page 1) next year on recruitment to the hobby.

Please look for opportunities to promote the hobby at community events. The club has a nice display all created and ready to go. All you need is a table. I will be ordering some brochures from the ARRL and other publicity material. If your community has any events that you think would be good to promote Ham Radio at, please make it happen.

Thanks to all those who ran for office. I am so glad to have so many capable individuals serving next year. I would also like to thank Julie Dabb who has served as the secretary the past two years.

Everyone have a merry Christmas. See you at the club meeting with some great prizes.

73's

Kevin

#### (Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

not see him often, he keeps tabs on our comings and goings.

Harry was born in Salt Lake City, but raised in Idaho Falls, amongst the spuds. He got involved in Broadcast Engineering with KIFI & KID Television when Iconoscopes, Vidicons, Image Orthicons, and Plumbicons were the seeing eyes of the monsters of the early TV age. He majored in EE, later picked up a Masters in Business at Pepperdine University. Spent a few years at JPL, managing space data systems. He now has been with SDL for some 18 years. As all of you may know, they do some interesting things up there. A lot of fingers in a lot of pies, and that is what research is all about.

With his kind permission we can pass along a rather bizarre scenario that happened when at the tender age of 14 or so, he and a friend competitor discovered girls of the opposite gender. It seems there was a bit of competition in securing a date for the big dance and they both had their eye on the same young lady, girlfriend "A". Undoubtedly there must have been some wager of note in who could ask this young lady the big question first. Harry's "friend" in a sudden devious diabolical move, talked Harry into going and visiting girlfriend "B", and suddenly announced that Harry wanted to ask this girl "B" a very important question. Well to save the day and not insert said foot in said mouth, Harry felt he must ask girl "B" to the big dance. Well you can probably imagine the intrigue and suspense, but all's well that ends well. It just so happens that girlfriend "B" ultimately wound up as Mrs. Harry Ames. How's that for a success story?

Girlfriend "B" is the former Miss Susan Bates, born

in Hollywood of all places. Her father, a professional Jazz musician, had an extended association with the society of the day. It must have rubbed off as Susan is an accomplished Operatic Soprano, and if memory serves correctly, favored the club with her vocal talents some time ago. (Hint-Hint). She has been paramount in exposing some 18,000 children to the world of Opera over the years. Here your kids came home singing Rigaletto and you didn't even know where they got it from. The Ames have 4 boys, all married (with tickets), and a daughter.

Harry's other interests are RC airplanes, he's an avid reader, and even does some authoring of novek. She still writes music, is involved in the local opera activities, and initially thought we Hams were a Nerdy bunch, but accepted the convenience of some long distance communications and decided the hobby guys are human after all (whew).

While in California, Marina del Rey to be exact, he resided on his water born 35' motor cruiser. It was cheap lodging as he put it. They had also purchased a place up in Sun Valley, so they needed reasonable communications. Now enter the guy on the big stallion with a white hat. I have just what we need, right here in this little black box with knobs on it. Just turn it on, and voila, we can talk to each other. Pretty shrewd I'd say.

He indicated for several years they commuted between California and Sun Valley. Let's see now, as close as I can figure, they sailed up the coast, up the Columbia to Lewiston Idaho, thence down the Salmon river, into the Central Idaho Irrigation Co. canal, and then a short pack trip into Ketchum. He didn't comment a great deal on this aspect. Glad to have you aboard Harry. 73s.

#### The ARES E-Letter October 1, 2005 FEMA COURSES ON AMATEUR RADIO RESOURCES; ICS/NIMS TRAINING

Here is a solution to help public officials learn to interface with Amateur Radio assets: government-approved Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) training course "G250.6 - Workshop: Amateur Radio Resources." This three- to four-hour workshop is designed to provide state and local elected officials, emergency managers, and other public officials with an understanding of how Amateur Radio volunteer communication groups can help in supplementing telecommunication and warning systems. Please direct them to the FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) at <htps://www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/> to register for this course.

ARRL AN NGO? [The following is a response to John]

Wallack's, W6TLK, idea of promoting ARES as an "official" non-government organization (NGO) with the status of the American Red Cross, for example.] John, W6TLK, is right. ARES should become an NGO, with the emphasis on organization. In some parts of the country, ARES is a well-planned and well-trained machine. With dedicated volunteers equipped and prepared to respond at any time they are needed, they have introduced themselves to, and trained with, served agencies. They have become a useful part of agency emergency response plans. But in other parts of the country, ARES is only a concept. That is not enough. To be viable, a group must have a strong program of training, commitment requirements, and a real plan of action in order to function in reality. ARES needs national program enhancements as well. ARRL should issue official credentials for ARES members recognized by the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in all states, after passing FEMA's national incident management system training, ARRL's Level 1 ARECC (EC-001) course, and an FBI background check. Annual training on mustering and responding to an emergency should be required for credential renewal. ARES members should be issued a universally recognized uniform. Once we get it together along the lines suggested above, it will be easier for us to become a real NGO .-- Mark Conklin, N7XYO

#### FINAL NOTE: THE BEST RADIO SERVICE

One of the criticisms I hear occasionally is that Amateur Radio involves old technology and doesn't have much to contribute to the public safety telecommunication arena anymore. It seems to me that such criticism is wholly unjustified. Just look at Rob Macedo's report above in this issue on the Amateur Radio digital and Internet linking protocols employed during Hurricane Rita action. They worked fantastically and represent the state of the art. Coupled with our tried and true "old technology," I think that Amateur Radio is hard to beat as the premier radio service to be involved in any emergency response. We should start thinking more of ourselves in this regard, and not selling our service short to served agencies. We are the best radio service for disaster/public safety telecommunication need, period. End of story. - K1CE

### The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 42 October 28, 2005 Amateur Radio volunteers fill communication gap when

telephones fail:

When a telephone outage occurred in Southern California October 18, the Long Beach Emergency Communications and Operations Center (ECOC) declared a "communication failure protocol," and ARES/RACES members and other ham radio volunteers stepped in to help. The outage disabled 911 service in communities along the coast and through parts of Los Angeles and Orange counties. It also cut off at least 150,000 telephone and Internet service customers for up to 12 hours along with many cell phone users. Radio amateurs worked with police and fire officials to support the departments with auxiliary communications. Hams also were stationed at 17 of the largest nursing homes in town. The emergency net successfully relayed traffic through the ECOC to the hospitals, nursing homes and ambulance services, ensur-

#### ==>NEW FOUNDATION LICENSE, AMATEUR REGULATORY CHANGES INTRODUCED IN AUSTRALIA

Australia has introduced an entry-level Foundation Amateur Radio license and established a new overall licensing and certification structure. The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) put the new regulations into effect October 19. Other rule changes combined Novice and Novice Limited licensees into a new Standard license class, and all Limited. Intermediate and Unrestricted licensees are now Advanced licensees with full amateur privileges. Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) President Michael Owen, VK3KI, welcomed the "long-awaited" changes ---in particular the new Foundation license-and expressed the hope that they would encourage newcomers. "We also know that there will be many amateurs operating on the 40 and 20-meter bands for the first time with those bands available to Standard licensees," he said. "We urge all amateurs to make all these newcomers welcome." Owen also praised ACMA for what he called its "cooperative approach" in establishing examination standards and procedures. The first Foundation license was issued October 21 to Amanda Gray, who requested the call sign VK4FRST before knowing that hers was, indeed, the first Australian Foundation license issued. ACMA has adopted the distinctive and unusual four-letter suffix starting with "F" for all VK Foundation licensees. Foundation licensees will have limited access to 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters as well as the entire 2 meter and 70 cm bands using voice modes or "hand-keyed" CW only (ie, no keyboard or computergenerated code). Licensees will be permitted to run up to 10 W on SSB and 3 W on AM, FM and CW—although the WIA wants ACMA to increase that limit to 10 W as well. Foundation licensees may only use commercially manufactured transmitters. The new license is similar to the Foundation class license that's been available in Great Britain since 2002. In addition to creation of the new Foundation license, ACMA amended Australia's Amateur Radio regulations to regulate by necessary bandwidth rather than by emission mode. The new rules permit the use of any emission mode with a bandwidth not exceeding 8 kHz. Said Owen: "The WIA believes that these changes to the Australian amateur license structure will strengthen our hobby and encourage many more people to become licensed radio amateurs." More information is on the ACMA Web site <http://www.acma.gov.au/ ACMAINTER.65690:STANDARD::pc=PC\_1256>.

A video public service announcement (PSA) now is available to promote the ARRL/The Salvation Army 2005 Holiday Toy Drive. Offered in three formats, these clips feature 2005 Holiday Toy Drive National Chairperson and country music artist Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ. "Patty caught the feeling of the Toy Drive perfectly in the video," said ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, the ARRL Headquarters point person for the drive. "She expresses her concern, compassion and a deep pride in being an Amateur Radio operator." Pitts says Loveless and producer Richard Lubash, N1VXW, joined forces to produce the high-quality public service video for the drive. PSA versions are available for television broadcasters as well as for Web, club and meeting presentations. There's a 3 MB MP4 file, a 9 MB .wmv file and a 480 MB .mov file (for TV broadcasters). Visit < http:// www.hello-radio.org/> to download. The goal of the ARRL/ The Salvation Army 2005 Holiday Toy Drive is to brighten the holidays for youngsters displaced or left homeless by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Between now and December 10, radio amateurs from all across the US will be collecting new unwrapped toys for boys and girls aged 1 to 14 and sending them with a QSL card (or a card bearing their call sign) to: ARRL Toy Drive/The Salvation Army, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd-Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125. Gifts already have begun to show up in Memphis from all over the US. ARRL invites its members to send cash donations, if they prefer, to: ARRL Toy Drive, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. The League is asking all radio amateurs to make the holiday season a little bit brighter for kids affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. "The hams who were in the Gulf Coast returned with stories of devastated families and children," Pitts noted. "Perhaps we cannot save the whole world, but as the holiday season gets closer, we are showing the best traits of a long history of service to others when we remember those children. Sending a new toy is a minor inconvenience and expense to most of us, but to the child on the other end it can mean everything."

**ARRL "Public Service Stories" page proves popular:** Amateur Radio volunteers have posted dozens of reports on the ARRL's new "Public Service Stories" page <http://www. arrl.org/FandES/field/PublicServiceStories/>. The League thanks those who have taken the time to share their experiences. Additional stories are welcome! At present, the site is open to reports from radio amateurs who provided public service in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma and want to tell the world about their public service contributions. The Public Service Stories page accepts both text and photos for all to see. Submissions from ARRL members who are logged onto the League's Web site will be published immediately. Others' submissions will be reviewed before posting.

#### Hurricane volunteers to be honored in QST:

Amateurs who provided communication support during ecovery efforts for hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma will be honored with a special listing, including names and call signs, in the February issue of QST. To be eligible for the list, complete the ARRL Hurricane Relief Volunteer Service Report on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/ agencies/vol-report.html>. The reporting deadline for the QST list is December 9. You do not have to be an ARRL or ARES member to be included in the list.

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International Space Station Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, told middle schoolers in Missouri and elementary schoolers in Japan that he's enjoying his stay in space. McArthur spoke November 16 with youngsters at Hermann Middle School near St Louis, and the following day with students at Takatsuki Education Center in Japan. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program arranged both direct VHF contacts. McArthur told one youngster in Missouri that lost items typically turn up sooner or later. "I haven't lost any tools outside, but I have lost things inside the spaceship because it's so big and things float away," said McArthur, a veteran of three space walks. "So when they're lost inside, I just wait and always keep an eye out, and eventually I have found almost everything." McArthur told both groups of students that he did not consider becoming an astronaut until he was in the US Army flying helicopters. In Missouri, some 100 parents, teachers and fellow students were in the audience, while the rest of the school was able to monitor the proceedings between the school's KC0JYV and NA1SS via the public address system. Two St Louis TV stations also showed up for the occasion. Roy Welch, WOSL, and Mike Koenig, NOPFF, served as the control operators. MSNBC carried live video of the contact. On November 17, McArthur told youngsters at Takatsuki Education Center that he and crewmate Valery Tokarev will remain aboard the ISS for a total of 182 days-until next April. He also said he misses his family and friends while orbiting 220 miles above Earth's surface. "The hardest thing about living in space is not being with your family and friends on the earth," McArthur said in answer to one youngster's question. "Fortunately, my crewmate Valery and I are very good friends, and so we keep each other company." Eighteen questions were asked and answered during the contact between 8N3A at Hiyoshidai Elementary School and NA1SS. McArthur explained that size matters when it comes to being an astronaut. "We worry most about an astronaut being too large," said McArthur, who is 185 cm tall-just over six feet. "An astronaut cannot be any taller than I am and be on the space station, and we think maybe being a smaller person helps because then it takes less fuel to get you to space." ARISS-Japan mentor Satoshi Yasuda, 7M3TJZ, said reporters from two TV stations and three newspapers covered the event. The control operator was Tamotsu Ando, JK3NSD. Some 300 people, including parents, visitors and news media, were on hand for the contact. ARISS <http://www.rac.ca/ariss> is an international educational outreach, with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

#### **Questions for Technician Class License**

1. (T1B14) What does it mean for an amateur station to operate under reciprocal operating authority?

A. The amateur is operating in a country other than his home country

B. The amateur is allowing a third party to talk to an amateur in another country

C. The amateur has permission to communicate in a foreign language

D. The amateur has permission to communicate with amateurs in another country

2. (T3A11) When a signal is returned to Earth by the iono-sphere, what is this called?

A. Sky-wave propagation

B. Earth-Moon-Earth propagation

C. Ground-wave propagation

D. Tropospheric propagation

3. (T5C10) When may you deliberately interfere with another station's communications?

A. Only if the station is operating illegally

B. Only if the station begins transmitting on a frequency you are using

C. Never

D. You may expect, and cause, deliberate interference because it can't be helped during crowded band conditions

4. (T7C09) What component controls current to flow in one direction only?

- A. A fixed resistor
- B. A signal generator
- C. A diode
- D. A fuse
- 5. (T8E04) What does an SWR reading of 4:1 mean?
- A. An impedance match that is too low
- B. An impedance match that is good, but not the best
- C. An antenna gain of 4

D. An impedance mismatch; something may be wrong with the antenna system

6. (T9B06) Which antenna system would NOT be a good choice for an EME (moonbounce) station?

- A. A parabolic -dish antenna
- B. A multi-element array of collinear antennas
- C. A ground-plane antenna
- D. A high-gain array of Yagi antennas

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



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