



# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

*Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club*

## February 2006

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

### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

It was great to see such a fantastic turn out at the club meeting in January. Our open house brought out a lot of hams, and folks interested in the hobby. I appreciate the help of everyone who did a demo. In February we look forward to having Wally Gibbons WB7ASQ come and show us some vintage radios.



Wally is a collector of the things and knows how to restore them. He was kind enough to mentor me when I inherited a 1936 RCA victor radio from my grandparents. You will not want to miss this event.

The club is in fantastic shape. This past year we have had fantastic turnout at club meetings. I hope more of you will join us. We

are having a great time exploring all aspects of Amateur Radio. A lot of summer public service events are coming up, as well as Field Day, a popular event for club members.

We are starting another licensing class for those interested in getting their ham radio license. If you know someone who is interested, let them know. You can find out more about it in another section of the newsletter.

There seems to be a renewed interest lately in this valley about Amateur Radio. For the past few months I have been receiving phone calls from Hams whom we have not heard from in awhile, along with others who are interested in becoming hams. There is great momentum going, and I appreciate all the good work of the Board and club members to invite folks to join us. They are hearing the word about all the fun we are having.

*(Continued on page 3)*

### HAM PROFILE

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

Why don't we find out a bit more info on one of our less seen fraternity (sisters) who was the lucky recipient of the neat HT at the Christmas repast.

It's none other than the former Linda Robbins, better known as Mrs. Paul Hansen, N7NIS. She has had the present call for 16 years or so and together with hubby Paul W07N, have enjoyed some toll free QSOs on 2 meters.

She was tickled pink and completely surprised at receiving the new Yaesu VX-170. They are one neat rig and built like the proverbial brick ham shack. Paul gleefully remarked that you could run over one of the things and not even scratch the paint. We'll expect a full account of any such endeavor, (so will Yaesu). An



additional benefit would be that the rig is certified for about 30 minute operation under about 3 feet of water. Paul is now thinking of a canoe and some maritime mobile on the 1<sup>st</sup>. dam. (come what may) She related a rather somber tale about her aged HT of yesteryear which suddenly would do one of the two acknowledged functions of an HT but not both. This probably explains

*(Continued on page 3)*

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES 2006

## Club Officers

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February 11, 10:00 A.M. - Club Meeting  
Wally Gibbons WA7ASQ will speak about old time radio

Feb 16, 23 & Mar 2 - Ham Radio License Class  
7:00 P.M. at 1498 North 800 East in Logan  
See [www.barconline.org](http://www.barconline.org) for more information

Feb 25 - Annual Utah VHF society swap meet in SLC

March 11, 8:00 A.M. - VE Test Session

March 11, 10:00 A.M. - Club Meeting  
Mel Parkes, AC7CP, ARRL Section Manager will speak

April 22 - Northern Utah Hamfest

May 25 ? - Mt. Man Rendezvous

May 19 -21 - Dayton Hamvention

June 3 ? - Cache Classic

June 10 ? - Cache Valley Biathlon

June - Utah Hamfest

June 9, 10, 11 - Hamcon

June 23 & 24 - Wasatch Back Relay

June 24 & 25 - Utah MS 150

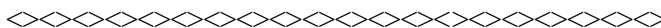
June 24 & 25 - Field Day

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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

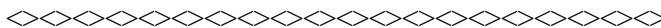
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ARES Meetings are usually held on the Third Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M. at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex. Contact Tyler Griffiths for more information or if you want to be involved.



### **BARC website back online**

In December the server that hosts [www.barconline.org](http://www.barconline.org) was hacked and shut down. It took awhile to get it back online due to time constraints. It is now back online and undergoing some tweaks to bring it back to the way it was. Thanks to Jacob Anawalt KD7YKO, Garth Mikelsell KC7VLZ, and Blake Rich (no callsign) for their help. Also thanks to Bob Wood WA7MXZ, and Rik Stallings for getting the temporary one going. Rik Stallings donates the domain name [www.barconline.org](http://www.barconline.org) to the club at no charge. Thanks Rik!



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

*(Presidents message Continued from page 1)*

In March, our ARRL section manager Mel Parks will speak to us. In April, Rik Stalling, N7XZ will give a presentation on basic computer security and some things you can do to protect your computer from viruses, spyware, and all those other nasty things.

Speaking of computers, the server our BARC website is on, was hacked over the holidays. The pesky intruders snuck in and placed a Linux back door on the server and then used the box to try to hack other computers. I have realized there are just too many people with too much time on their hands. Most are in another country.

Our plans for May are to have a build it party again. The board is working on some ideas for this. We will have a bunny hunt sometime soon as well.

I am sure Jim Lofthouse and Rich Fisher had a great time with the 160 meter contents. I heard Rich on the air about 5 minutes till show time. He was ready. We will have to get a report from them at club meeting. My guess is that they worked all states.

See you all at club meeting.

N7RXE

Kevin Reeve

*(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)*

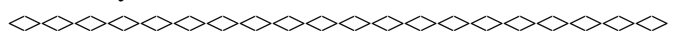
her silence on the air for a spell. Things ought to change now when the new smell gradually wears off. Remember Linda, the PL tone is 103.5 and go to it.

Linda was born in Provo but stayed in Cougar land long enough to master the curriculum at the local elementary establishment, then migrated to Logan shortly, after not finding the word Aggies in the BYU dictionary. She didn't mention finding the word Cougar in the Aggie bible either. She graduated from Logan High and majored in Elementary Ed at USU.

They lived in the same ward in Logan, where she thought that tall blond headed guy was THE one, figured he might make a good ham and they decided to tie the knot, pool their funds and buy some Ham gear. Linda has used the HT gear for some vital communications with the Girl Scouts in several campouts, Yellowstone and otherwise. They have two harmonics, a daughter being married. Not sure if Paul exerted any pressure on her to get the ticket, but she has 4 sewing machines. In all fairness, we ought to expand on that one a bit. She makes some very beautiful quilts, real life size and more importantly specializes in the design and making of miniature size quilts. I at first made the mistake of assuming they might be intricate hot pads or something similar. (I'll not make that mistake again) These works of art are small versions (some a foot

square) of the larger varieties. If you can imagine the details going into a complex larger quilt, then shrink it down to miniature size, while maintaining all the same features, you have in mind the things she artfully does, and does well. She has entered her handiwork in several fairs, both local and State.

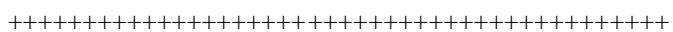
She parted with a neat compliment, the instruction manual for the new HT is considerably thicker than the ones that came with her new sewing machines. Good on ya Yaesu. 73s all.



The ARRL Letter Vol. 25, No. 01 January 6, 2006

**==>CANADIAN AMATEURS TO LOSE 220-222 MHz**

Barring an outpouring of "compelling arguments to the contrary," Industry Canada will reallocate the 220-222 MHz portion of 220-225 MHz from the Canadian amateur service to the mobile and fixed services. Under the provisional reallocation, which will take effect January 25, the amateur service will be allocated the 219-220 MHz subband on a secondary basis. Additionally, the amateur service may be permitted use of 220-222 MHz "in exceptional circumstances on a secondary basis to assist in disaster relief efforts."



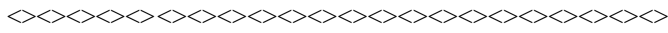
**==>HAMS AID FIGHT AGAINST TEXAS GRASS FIRES**

Amateur Radio Emergency Service and other Amateur Radio operators from the West Texas Section, and especially the Abilene vicinity, were called to assist with communications during the last week of 2005 when the wildfires struck Cross Plains, Texas, in the southeastern portion of neighboring Callahan County. "There was no cell service because the connection to the cell tower was burned," said Bill Shaw, KJ5DX, the ARRL Emergency Coordinator in nearby Taylor County. "There was one landline phone working at the church where the Cross Plains Red Cross shelter was set up." Amateur Radio operators established communication via UHF and VHF radios between the Cross Plains Shelter, Brownwood Red Cross Shelter, and Abilene Red Cross headquarters. A team of 14 radio amateurs was on hand during this emergency. "We kept up 24 hour communications for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday until noon via ham radio," Shaw explained. "The fire started as a grass fire about noontime on December 27, and quickly escalated into a raging wildfire that was fed by 45 mph winds." Unfortunately, the fire quickly spread toward town about 3 miles away, and it burned the area that is about 4 to 6 miles east-west and 2 to 3 miles north-south in size. "About 31 fire departments fought fires until about 5:00 the next morning," Shaw said. As a result of this fire, almost 8,000 acres burned, 152 homes were damaged, and that represents 25 to 30 per cent of the homes in Cross Plains. Over a hundred of those homes were completely destroyed. Wildfires have also been burning in drought-stricken Oklahoma and New Mexico.



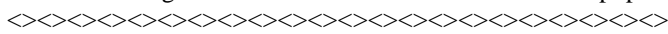


amateurs, it provides an introduction to Amateur Radio to kids," Harrison said of the ETP. "Having that awareness of Amateur Radio and what it provides is vital," because it imparts a broad-based knowledge of the service to tomorrow's citizens and policymakers. The ARRL Board also elected Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN, as First Vice President, succeeding Harrison, and Delta Division Director Rick Roderick, K5UR, to Vice President, succeeding Craigie. Both were unopposed. ARRL Delta Division Vice Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, will become Division Director. A new Delta Division Vice Director will be appointed. In addition, the Board re-elected ARRL CEO and Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, COO Harold Kramer, WJ1B, Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, Chief Financial Officer Barry Shelley, N1VXY, Treasurer Jim McCobb, K1LU, Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, and International Affairs Vice President Rod Stafford, W6ROD. All those elected will officially begin their new terms when the Board of Directors adjourns its current session. The Board of Directors annual meeting was expected to conclude January 21. The Board will meet again in July.



**==>"SUITSAT" TARGET DATE NOW FEBRUARY 3**

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) has announced another change in the "SuitSat" deployment date, which has been a bit of a moving target. The latest target date is late Friday, February 3 (UTC). That's when the International Space Station crew is set to perform its next space walk. According to informed sources, the crew is scheduled to open the hatch for its excursion around 2200 UTC, and SuitSat should be put into orbit within the first hour. Possibly the most unusual Earth satellite ever, SuitSat consists of a surplus Russian Orlan space suit converted into a transmit-only satellite with an FM downlink frequency of 145.990 MHz. Using the call sign RS0RS, it will transmit voice messages, telemetry and an SSTV image on a nine-minute cycle as it orbits Earth. The batteries powering the satellite are expected to last about a week after deployment, and SuitSat's free-floating, decaying orbit should cause it to re-enter Earth's atmosphere after some six weeks in space. The SuitSat signal should be strong enough to hear using a VHF transceiver or scanner and a simple antenna—thus making it an ideal project for students to monitor and track. SuitSat's payload also includes a CD containing hundreds of school pictures, artwork, poems, and student signatures. For more information, see article "This is SuitSat-1 RS0RS" by Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, on the AMSAT Web site <<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/articles/BauerSuitsat/index.php>>.



The ARRL Letter Vol. 25, No. 04 January 27, 2006

**==>FCC ORDERS AMATEUR RULE CHANGES TO CONFORM WITH WRC-03**

The FCC has ordered several rule revisions to implement changes agreed to at the international level during World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). Acting Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Chief Catherine W. Seidel signed the Order, released January 19. The changes affect §97.111, Authorized transmissions; §97.113, Prohibited transmissions; §97.115, Third party communications, and

§97.117, International communications. "These amendments will ensure that the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules conform to Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations adopted at the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference, and will further the Commission's ongoing efforts to streamline its Amateur Service Rules," the FCC said. "The overall effect of this action is to update the Part 97 Amateur Radio Service rules in the Code of Federal Regulations to conform to now-effective international agreements." The rule changes will become effective upon publication in The Federal Register. The FCC Order revises:

? §97.111(a)(1) to permit "transmissions necessary to exchange messages with other stations in the Amateur Service, except those in any country whose administration has notified the ITU that it objects to such communications. The FCC will issue public notices of current arrangements for international communications." The old language permitted communication among amateur stations in different countries "except those in any country whose administration has given notice that it objects to such communications." The FCC said the change does not prejudice its proposal to amend §97.111(a)(2) to clarify that amateur stations may, at all times and on all authorized channels, transmit communications necessary to meet essential needs and to facilitate relief actions.

? §97.115(a)(2) to facilitate the transmission of international communications on behalf of third parties in emergency or disaster-relief situations, whether or not a third-party agreement is in place between the US and the countries involved. The revision now permits communication with any non-US station "when transmitting emergency or disaster relief communications" as well as with any non-US station "whose administration has made arrangements with the United States to allow amateur stations to be used for transmitting international communications on behalf of third parties." The revised rule further provides that no station may transmit third-party traffic other than emergency or disaster relief communications to a station in a country lacking a third-party arrangement. Still excepted from the prohibition is any third party eligible to be the control operator of an amateur station.

? §97.113(a)(4) to prohibit amateur stations exchanging messages with amateur stations in other countries from making transmissions that are encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning, except for control signals exchanged between Earth command stations and space stations in the Amateur-Satellite service, something Part 97 already provides for. The old rule referred to the use of "codes and ciphers." The same rule also already prohibits transmitting music, communications intended to facilitate a criminal act, obscene or indecent words or language and false or deceptive messages, signals or identification.

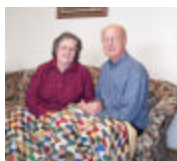
? §97.117 to state that amateur stations may transmit communications incidental to the purposes of the Amateur Service and to remarks of a personal character.

The FCC also revised §97.3 and 97.309 to update the definition of International Morse code and of various digital codes in the amateur rules to reflect changes in the international Radio Regulations.

## Questions for Extra Class License

1. (E1F11) Which persons seeking to be VEs cannot be accredited?
  - A. Persons holding less than an Advanced Class operator license
  - B. Persons less than 21 years of age
  - C. Persons who have ever had an amateur operator or amateur station license suspended or revoked
  - D. Persons who are employees of the federal government
2. (E2E04) If an oscilloscope is connected to a TNC or terminal unit and is displaying two crossed ellipses, one of which suddenly disappears, what would this indicate about the observed signal?
  - A. The phenomenon known as selective fading has occurred
  - B. One of the signal filters has saturated
  - C. The receiver should be retuned, as it has probably moved at least 5 kHz from the desired receive frequency
  - D. The mark and space signal have been inverted and the receiving equipment has not yet responded to the change
3. (E4C22) What degree of selectivity is desirable in the IF circuitry of a single-sideband phone receiver?
  - A. 1 kHz
  - B. 2.4 kHz
  - C. 4.2 kHz
  - D. 4.8 kHz
4. (E5E18) In rectangular coordinates, what is the impedance of a circuit that has an admittance of 5 millisiemens at -30 degrees?
  - A.  $173 - j100$  ohms
  - B.  $200 + j100$  ohms
  - C.  $173 + j100$  ohms
  - D.  $200 - j100$  ohms
5. (E6B21) What is one common use for PIN diodes?
  - A. As a constant current source
  - B. As a constant voltage source
  - C. As an RF switch
  - D. As a high voltage rectifier
6. (E7F02) How many states does a decade counter digital IC have?
  - A. 2
  - B. 10
  - C. 20
  - D. 100

**THE OHM TOWN NEWS**  
**PO BOX 111**  
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***February, 2006***

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