

THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

February 2009

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

HAM PROFILE

by Brent Carruth KE7QHP
Austin Reeve, KE7OAU

For Austin Reeve Field Day 2007, June 23-24, located at the USU Forestry Field Station between mile markers 480 and 481 near the Tony Grove lake turnoff in Logan Canyon, was a very memorable event. He



vividly remembers the novelty of talking to others from across the country on HF and passing his license exam. Austin was a mere eleven years old at the time. The 35 question Technician Class license exam is drawn from a pool of 392 questions from ten subelements: FCC Rules, Station license responsibilities; Control operator duties; Operating practices; Radio

and electronic fundamentals; Station setup and operation; Communications modes and methods; Special operations; Emergency and Public Service Communications; Radio waves, propagation, and antennas; Electrical and RF Safety (see www.ncvec.org). Passing this exam is an accomplishment for anyone and it is an especially impressive accomplishment for an eleven-year-old. How did he prepare for this exam, one might ask. He practiced taking exams every day for one-half hour. His older brother, Cameron, says he practiced so hard that he recognized all of the questions on the exam. He took the course three times and when it came time to take the exam he passed it with flying colors. There was only one question on the exam that he didn't understand and so he asked his Dad about this question.

When he passed the exam his Dad bought him a Yaesu VX-170 2-meter single band radio with a speaker mike. The radio has a wall adapter to power

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President's Message

The Utah Legislature will open its 45-day annual general session Monday January 26th. There are a couple of bills that are of concern to the amateur radio community. These are House Bill 95 and 248.

House Bill 95 "Restrictions On Use Of Wireless Communication Devices In Vehicles" (<http://le.utah.gov/~2009/htmdoc/hbillhtm/HB0095.htm>). This bill prohibits a person from using a wireless communications device while operating a motor vehicle on a highway in this state. It described a wireless communication device as a wireless telephone, two-way radio, personal digital assistant, pager, and a text messaging device. The penalty for using a wireless device while driving is a class C misdemeanor. After Representative Phil Riesen received many concerns from CB and amateur radio users, he provided a response that it was not his intent to limit those uses and has drafted an amendment to the bill to remove the words "two-way radio". His intent was to limit the use of the technology of wireless Nextel voice to voice devices, cell phones, and texting while driving.



House Bill 248 "Regulating The Use Of A Wireless Communication Device While Operating A Motor Vehicle" (<http://le.utah.gov/~2009/htmdoc/hbillhtm/HB0248.htm>). This bill prohibits a person from using a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle unless the wireless communication device is designed and configured to allow for hands-free talking and listening and is used in that manner. It described a wireless communication device as a wireless telephone, personal digital assistant, pager, and a text messaging device. The penalty for using a wireless

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES 2009

February Club Meeting - February 14
Internet Safety

March Club Meeting - March 14
Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS)

April Club Meeting - April 11

BARC Club Meetings are normally on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 A.M. on the 3rd floor of 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.

If you are able to help with the activities this year please sign up so that we can coordinate the work. The way to sign up is on the Internet, you can go to the club web site at: <http://www.barconline.org>. On the left side of the page in the Navigation area click on Topics and then Activities. If you have questions contact one of the Club Officers.

February club meeting topic: Internet Safety.

Rik Stallings, N7XZ, will be giving a presentation on Internet Safety. Rik is the IT Manager for the Logan City School District. Rik will describe current security threats, the risky behavior that makes us vulnerable to these threats, and offer suggestions to help avoid becoming a victim.

The General Class license course is continuing, it started on 29 January and will go until 12 March. This is the first time such a course has been offered in Cache Valley in a very long time. Brent Carruth, AD7VF, Ted McArthur, AC7II, Bob Wood, WA7MXZ, Ernie Vandewijngaert, KB7ZNH, Cordell Smart, KE7IK and Kevin Reeve, N7RXE, will each share their expertise in a lesson on an aspect of amateur radio relating to the General Class license operator. Classes are held from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm on Thursday evenings at Ellis Elementary School 348 West 300 North, Logan, Utah. The regularly scheduled quarterly BARC VE exam session will be Saturday, 14 March 2009, at which time you may upgrade your license by successfully passing the General Class license exam. For questions, comments, or to express interest in attending the course, please contact Brent Carruth at carruth@ee.utah.edu.

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

New Club Officers

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device while driving is a class C misdemeanor.

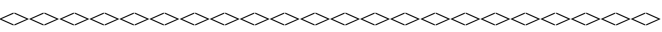
An amateur radio in a vehicle can be a handheld or mobile two-way radio. Some amateur radios have Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) capability which can send and receive text messages. Thus an amateur radio is a two-way radio and a text messaging device.

The federal rules that govern amateur radio service are located in Title 47 Telecommunications Part 97 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations information is located in the National Archives and Records Administration, <http://www.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/cfrassemble.cgi?title=200847>. The FCC is the government agency responsible for the regulation of wire and radio communications and is responsible for the licensing of amateur radio service. In Part 97, there is no reference that a State can regulate amateur radio operation except in Radio Amateur Civil emergency Service (RACES) radio service using amateur stations for civil defense communications during periods of local, regional or national civil emergencies or other emergency communications, and for an antenna structure where the State and local regulation of a station antenna structure must not preclude amateur service communications.

It is important to contact your representative and voice your concerns on these bills and any other bill that will limit the use of amateur radio. This link provides an easy way to find your district and your Representative: <http://www.le.state.ut.us/house/DistrictInfo/NewMaps/State.htm>.

See you at our next club meeting.

73,
Cordell KE7IK



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and charge his radio. He has a pocket J-pole antenna that he made at the Ham Youth day in May 2008.

His parents, Kevin and Janet, N7RXE (1991) and KCGCK (1994), both active in amateur radio, have given Austin many opportunities to participate in public service events: the Top of Utah Marathon every year since its beginning in 2000, LOTOJA, Bear 100, Pony Express, Little Red Riding Hood, Cache Valley Cruise In and many others. He has also enjoyed going to many Field Day events. Always prepared to help in an emergency, while riding with his Mom through Logan canyon once when he was very young, she came upon an accident scene and provided essential, time-critical communications.

For the Bear 100 this year, 26-27 Sep 2008, he helped at the starting line and at the half-way point. The starting point only took 45 minutes; the half-way point was from 7:00pm-12:00am. About 74 runners participated in this event.

Austin prepared an excellent report which he gave for the BARC net training topic on Tuesday, 21 Oct 2008, about overcoming fear of getting on the air. Even so, he is still a little scared to get on the air. He enjoys talking to other people around the state and around the country. He uses the Las Vegas IRLP reflector a lot. His memorable contacts using this reflector are in Alaska, Hawaii, and speaking to a Police Officer in Florida who also was an amateur radio operator. This was about 10 or 11 pm -- well past his bedtime, a rare treat like at field day events when he can stay up all night enjoying operating HF.

Austin's hobbies include model railroad, bicycling and hands on design. He built a crane that took a prize in the 2005 Utah State Fair. He is working on his radio merit badge and his biking merit badge -- he did the "Bike the Bear" this past summer. The second annual "Bike the Bear" was on Saturday, 23 Aug 2008. This is a 50 mile bicycle ride around Bear Lake that Boy Scouts from the Trapper Trails Council participated in. The ride completed the 50 mile leg of their cycling merit badge.

He is in seventh grade at Mount Logan Middle School. He enjoys math and thinks it is fun, he likes Utah Studies, enjoys running and ceramics. Austin and Megan Elwood, KE7LZQ, daughter of Richard and Peggy Elwood, are the only two in their school who have an amateur radio license. His friends think it is pretty cool that he can talk to people all around the world. One friend is working on his license. With some encouragement, this friend might study hard to pass his license exam, too.

He has a new church assignment, effective 19 Oct 2008, to be the Emergency Communications Specialist for the Cliffside First Ward. He has a good knowledge of what to do in an emergency having watched and been with his Dad who volunteers for Search and Rescue team communications in the Cache County Sheriff's office command trailer. By all measures, Austin is, and will be, a great asset in Cache Valley for volunteer communications needs of all types.



Philosophy of Ambiguity

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, 'where's the self-help section?' She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

**The ARRL Letter Vol. 28, No. 2 January 16, 2009
New Section Manager Appointed in Wyoming:**

Garth Crowe Sr, N7XKT, of Gillette, will assume the position of Section Manager in Wyoming as he takes over the reins from LeeAnne Sachau, WY7DTW, of Devils Tower; Sachau, who has served as Wyoming Section Manager since August 2008, has decided to step down. She was appointed last summer after Chris Pritchard, WY7UPR, moved out of the Section to start a new job. Crowe has served as Assistant Section Manager; he is currently holds positions as Emergency Coordinator and Official Observer. According to the Rules and Regulations of the ARRL Field Organization, Dave Patton, NN1N, Manager of the ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Department, made the appointment after consulting with Rocky Mountain Division Director Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, and receiving a recommendation from Sachau. Crowe's term of office will continue through March 31, 2011. The nomination announcement for the next term of office for Wyoming Section Manager is scheduled to appear in the October 2010 issue of QST.



If you're involved in ARES, it's vital that we take a cue from emergency management professionals and automatically include a "signature file" with each message we send. This way, in an emergency, all that is needed is to find one your past e-mails and retrieve the information from there. Most e-mail software such as Outlook, Outlook Express, Mac Mail, Eudora, G-Mail, Hotmail, etc. all allow for this in the "settings" section.

One of our local EC's, Matt Teal, KI4LPS, provided the best example that I've yet seen. I include it here as an example of what kind of information you should include:

Matt Teal, KI4LPS
Cherokee Co. ARES Emergency Coordinator
Cherokee EMA Volunteer, EMA 8
ALERT Member
Cherokee Co. Rescue Squad Member, RS 39
Hwy. 411 North
Centre, AL 35960
Home: 256-###-7800
Cell: 256-###-1596

Email: ki4lps@tds.net
Email to Cell text: 2565571596@vtext.com

Some things to note in Matt's sig file are the following:

1. He avoids turning it into a "brag file." We don't need to know all your titles, or how many FEMA courses you've completed. Save that for when your brother-in-law visits.
2. He includes a mailing address, and all telephone numbers where he can be reached. If you have a FAX machine, be sure to include that here. FAX is often a great way to get through.
3. Most cell phones can receive short SMS Text Messages sent from other phones, or in the form of an e-mail message. If you're not sure what that is, consult your carrier for assistance. SMS text is a great way to notify all your volunteers at one time, just by sending a single e-mail.

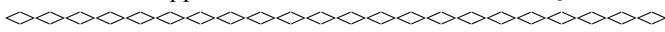
Sending SMS through email is easy. If you can be reminded through email, you can now be reminded through SMS. I have email reminders sent to me for everything. If you know the correct email address, you can also send these messages to your cellular phone. Here are the email addresses for the six most popular cellular phone carriers:

T-Mobile: phonenumber@tmomail.net
Virgin Mobile: phonenumber@vmobl.com
Cingular: phonenumber@cingularme.com
Sprint: phonenumber@messaging.sprintpcs.com
Verizon: phonenumber@vtext.com
Nextel: phonenumber@messaging.nextel.com

If you don't have a sig-file, please consider adding one. Who knows, it might make all the difference in a future drill or real world event. -- Les Rayburn, N1LF, Alabama Section Emergency Coordinator; NCS-SHARES NCS-047

**The ARRL Letter Vol. 28, No. 3 January 23, 2009
==> FCC REPORTS DECLINE IN BPL CUSTOMERS**

On January 16, 2009, the Federal Communications Commission released data, as of December 31, 2007, on the services used for high-speed Internet access in the United States. Ac-



**ARRL ARES E-Letter January 21, 2009
NIMS Changes Noted**

According to a [press release](#), last month the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) FEMA released a revised National Incident Management System (NIMS)--the national standard for incident management. NIMS establishes standardized incident management processes, protocols, and procedures that all federal, state, tribal and local responders will use to coordinate and conduct response actions. See the FEMA [Fact Sheet](#), [What's New](#), and [FAQs](#).

According to DHS, it has clarified "existing NIMS concepts, better incorporating preparedness and planning and improving the overall readability of the document. The revised document also differentiates between the purposes of NIMS and the National Response Framework (NRF) by identifying how NIMS provides the action template for the management of incidents, while the NRF provides the policy structure and mechanisms for national-level policy for incident management." -- Thanks, Les Rayburn, N1LF, via the Emergency-Management Group at Yahoo.com The updated National Incident Management System (NIMS) [course](#) is now available. - Dennis Dura, K2DCD, ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager.

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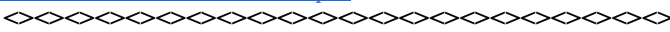
Letters: The Importance of "Sig-Files"

The recent ARRL Earthquake Drill of December 18, 2008 identified a number of problems with our outdated, manual "phone tree" notification system here in Alabama. Not only had we been remiss at not moving to an automated, rapid notification system years ago, but a great deal of our contact information for District Emergency Coordinators and Emergency Coordinators was out of date. In desperation, I began searching through literally hundreds of e-mails that I have organized into folders on my computer, sorted by District and then county. This helped some, but in many cases, I would have dozens of past communications from an ARES leader, signed with only a first name and call sign. Not much help there.

ording to the data collected by the FCC, as of that date there were 121.2 million high-speed lines (including wireless), a 20 percent increase in just six months.

In sharp contrast to the rapid growth in mobile wireless, cable modem, ADSL and fiber as delivery mechanisms to subscribers, Broadband over Power Line (BPL) utilization apparently declined during the period. According to the FCC figures, the category "Power Line and Other" dropped from 5420 lines in June 2007 to just 5274 six months later. It is not known how many of these are "Power Line" and how many are "Other."

"Despite the enormous and unwarranted hype given to BPL by the FCC under Chairmen Powell and Martin, the message from the marketplace is clear: BPL is going nowhere as a means of delivering broadband connectivity to consumers," observed ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "Still, the FCC has unfinished business with respect to BPL. It has been nine months since the federal Court of Appeals ordered the Commission to correct the errors it committed in adopting rules that inadequately protect licensed radio services from BPL interference <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/04/25/10064/>>, yet the FCC has made no effort to comply. With the change at the FCC helm that is about to take place, we hope the foot-dragging will come to an end and the Commission will fulfill its obligations to the Court as well as to its licensees." The 27-page FCC report may be found at on the FCC's Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-287962A1.pdf>.



**The ARRL Letter Vol. 28, No. 4 January 30, 2009
==> LAURA L. SMITH NAMED TO AMATEUR
RADIO ENFORCEMENT ROLE**

Laura L. Smith of Pennsylvania has been named by the FCC to fill the vacancy created when Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, retired in 2008 as Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. Hollingsworth served in that position for more than 10 years as the FCC's enforcement watchdog over the Amateur Radio Service <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/07/03/10198/>>.

A 1990 graduate of the Pepperdine University School of Law, Smith began her legal career with the FCC, working in the Mass Media Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. She also served as Deputy Division Chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division. Smith is currently licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In 1998, Smith left the FCC to become Executive Director of Governmental Affairs for the Industrial Telecommunications Association (ITA) <<http://www.ita-relay.com/default.htm>>, now Enterprise Wireless Alliance. In that role, she monitored FCC and legislative proceedings and participated in all regulatory proceedings relevant to the private wireless industry. In 2001, Smith became ITA's President and Chief Executive Officer. While in that position, she was instrumental in the formation of the Consensus Group, a group of public safety and private wireless entities responsible for drafting the "Consensus Plan," a proposed resolution for interference in the 800 MHz band; this was adopted by the FCC in 2004.

Smith returns to the FCC after serving Of Counsel with the Maryland law firm of Shulman Rogers. While there, she dealt with telecommunications matters and provided counsel to nu-

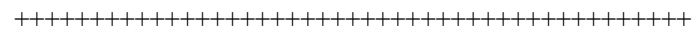
merous entities in the private radio and public safety communities. Smith has served as an industry consultant and written columns for a variety of trade publications including "Mobile Radio Technology Magazine" and "The Private Wireless Magazine."

In an October 2008 letter to then-FCC Chairman Kevin Martin, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, urged Martin to name a successor to Hollingsworth: "The appointment of a replacement Special Counsel in this position is of critical importance to the Amateur Radio Service, as the delay in finalizing the appointment stands to undermine in very short order an exceptionally successful and low-cost program of enforcement in the Amateur Service."

Calling the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement program "spectacularly successful," Harrison reminded Martin of the "long period in the late 1980s and 1990s during which the Commission was essentially uninvolved in enforcement in the Amateur Service. The Amateur Service, consisting of some 680,000 licensees of the Commission, is in essence a self-regulating service; however, due to the shared frequency allocations in the Service and the long distance propagation of amateur communications, a very few rule violators can cause severe disruption in the Service. On the other hand, even a minimal Commission presence has a very strong deterrent value."

When Hollingsworth was appointed as Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement, Harrison said that Hollingsworth "established a visible presence in the Service and very quickly, and with very little investment of Commission resources, using little more than the awareness of an enforcement presence, created strong deterrence against rule violations."

Upon learning of Smith's move to the Amateur Radio enforcement role, Harrison remarked that he was "very pleased to see the Commission move forward with the hiring of a new Special Counsel responsible for enforcement of the Amateur Radio Service rules. Ever since Riley Hollingsworth announced his retirement, we have met with the Enforcement Chief numerous times and corresponded with FCC Chairman Martin to ensure this position remains intact at FCC. The Commission acknowledges the self-regulating environment we maintain, but also understands that we need their assistance occasionally to resolve a few situations. They have continually reassured us that this is an important matter for them, and Ms Smith's hiring confirms that."



ARRL Expands Member Access to QST Archive

ARRL is pleased to announce that online access to the QST archive <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qqnsearch.html>> will be expanded. Beginning February 1, 2009, ARRL members will be able to search and view QST -- from December 1915 through December 2005 right from their computer. With an additional year -- 2005 -- added to the viewable archive, this valuable benefit is available to all ARRL members.

Access to the archive is free for ARRL members. QST is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. An interest in Amateur Radio is the only essential qualification of membership. ARRL membership is \$39 per year in the US. For a complete list of membership benefits and dues, please visit the ARRL Membership Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/join>>.

Questions for Technician Class License

1. (T1A03) What classes of US amateur radio licenses may currently be earned by examination?
 - A. Novice, Technician, General, Advanced
 - B. Technician, General, Advanced
 - C. Technician, General, Extra
 - D. Technician, Tech Plus, General
2. (T2C02) How many amateur operator / primary station licenses may be held by one person?
 - A. As many as desired
 - B. One for each portable transmitter
 - C. Only one
 - D. One for each station location
3. (T3D03) What is the major cause of telephone interference?
 - A. The telephone wiring is inadequate
 - B. Tropospheric ducting at UHF frequencies
 - C. The telephone was not equipped with adequate interference protection when manufactured.
 - D. Improper location of the telephone in the home
4. (T5A04) What could you use in place of a regular speaker to help you copy signals in a noisy area?
 - A. A video display
 - B. A low pass filter
 - C. A set of headphones
 - D. A boom microphone
5. (T7A05) What is a method used to locate sources of noise interference or jamming?
 - A. Echolocation
 - B. Doppler radar
 - C. Radio direction finding
 - D. Phase locking
6. (T9A12) What is the approximate length, in inches, of a 6-meter 1/2 wavelength wire dipole antenna?
 - A. 6 inches
 - B. 50 inches
 - C. 112 inches
 - D. 236 inches
7. (T0C10) Which of the following units of measurement is used to measure RF radiation exposure?
 - A. Milliwatts per square centimeter
 - B. Megohms per square meter
 - C. Microfarads per foot
 - D. Megahertz per second

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