

THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club



December 2009

>>>>>>

http://www.barconline.org

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

HAM PROFILE

by Brent Carruth, AD7VF

Nestled within a green, quiet hillside with peaceful waves of summer grain lies the small community of Petersboro. Eastbound motorists on scenic State Route 30, Valley View highway, are greeted with a welcome sign reading "Petersboro, First View of Cache Valley." Like their quiet hometown, Scott and Marla Boyer, KE7TAW and KE7TAX are also quiet people who lead very busy lives like the neighboring, busy Valley View highway.

Both employed at Utah State University, Scott is the Executive Director of Marketing for USU Extension Services and Marla is the Associate Director of Human Resources. They moved to Cache Valley in



2003 from Smithsburg, Maryland where they both earned an MBA degree from Frostburg State University. Scott was born and raised in Illinois and Marla in

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year is in its final month. We had a year filled with successful events and activities, including many interesting and informative programs presented at the club meetings. I want to thank all of you who helped out this year. I wouldn't dare try to list you all. I

would miss too many. But we couldn't have done it without you. It has been a fun and exciting time, and all in all I have enjoyed every minute.

Please remember that this club is for you. Let any of the officers or board

> members know of topics, activities, or anything that would



be of interest to you and others. Amateur radio offers many activities that an individual can pursue, learn, and have fun with. There is: talking with friends within the local area on a hand-held (HT) or a mobile in your vehicle, DXing world-wide on the HF bands to a distant country, assisting with emergency and disaster communications, technical experimenting from a simple antenna to something complex as a transmitter or an interface between their radio and a computer, contesting to see who can make the most contacts in a limited period of time, talking to the space station with your HT and a hand held beam antenna, using Orbiting Satellites Carrying

Amateur Radio (OCSAR) to experience satellite tracking and participate in radio propagation experiments, experimental work such as meteor scatter and

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES 2009 - 2010

VE Test Session - 12 December, 8:00 AM You Must RSVP on the BARC web site www.barconline.org The test is at Old Main on the USU campus

RACES VHF Net - 17 December, 8:00 PM

BARC Club Meeting - 9 January 2010

RACES HF Net - 16 January 2010, 8:00 AM

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. (The December meeting was our Christmas party at the BlueBird)

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.

Elections for the club officers for 2010 were held at the November club meeting. The results of the elections are......the same ones that we have this year!!! (with one exception) Since Jacob KD7YKO was on the Board as the past president, he wouldn't automatically stay on the board after the end of the year, so the election was for 3 members for the board. The election for the board was so close that we had to have another vote to break a tie. The end result was that Ted and Roger were reelected and Bob Wood WA7MXZ will be joining the board as the third member. Bob, welcome to the board and congratulations to all of the officers for winning the elections and being willing to lead the BARC Club for another great year.

If you missed the BARC Christmas Party you missed a great time!! There was a great meal and everyone had fun getting together for a little while. There was a drawing for several gifts including a variety of fun things including batteries, table place mats, candy, oranges, etc. and a dual band radio for a grand prize. The radio went to Tyler Griffiths.

The BARC Board has proposed changing some of the wording of the Club Bylaws, Article 12 Section 6 as shown in the November newsletter. The proposed changes were to be voted on in the November club meeting, but with all that was going on, and with the great presentation that was given, it was missed. At the December meeting it was discussed and presented to the club, and when the vote was taken it was unanimous in favor of the changes. They consist of changing the wording to say The Ohm Town News will be "sent" (instead of "mailed") out before meetings requiring a vote to be taken, and that it will be sent out no later than "Seven" (instead of "Ten") days prior to the scheduled meeting date. One of the main reasons for this change is that beginning in January The Ohm Town News will only be e-mailed to club members. This is to help with costs, and to allow the format to be changed to include more pictures and formatting that are hard to do when printing in black and white and sending in the snail mail.

Answers to questions on page 8: 1-C, 2-A, 3-C, 4-B, 5-B, 6-C



(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

San Diego. They met in a speech class at Grossmont Community College in El Cajon near San Diego.

Scott enjoys riding his Harley Davidson and BMW dual sport off road and puts his skills to use in a generous, beneficent way. In addition to their very busy professional lives, they give very generously of their time to serving with the Christian Motorcyclists Association in which they are very active. In a forthcoming mission to Belize they will help deliver dirt bikes to remote ministries, help build a school, help with water treatment, and offer medical care as needed. Scott is trained as a Wilderness First Responder.

Scott competed in the Bear Lake and Hyrum triathlons this year and competes in two or three each year. They enjoy cycling together and riding their tandem bicycle, kayaking, white water rafting, backpacking in Escalante and the Grand Canyon with plans to enjoy dinner below the rim at Phantom Ranch. Marla likes to play the guitar and sing and Scott's favorite instrument to play is the DJembe -- a hand drum from Mali. Together, their musical talent benefitted an October 2009 Women's Retreat at the Crystal Inn with the CMA group.

For such an active couple their lives suddenly took a quick turnaround when Marla was diagnosed with cancer in March 2007. For six months she underwent a rigorous regimen of chemotherapy and radiation treatment. To compound this, she lost her sister to cancer two months later. Two years later, her regimen appears to have been successful. Ever striving to reach out to others they created a website sageresources.biz to chronicle her battle with cancer in the hope that it might help others win their battles. A friend created the guest book feature and visitors to the website have been truly supportive and appreciative of the forum they have provided. Normally quiet and private people they decided to share their experiences with others in the hope that it might help someone else along the way. Indeed, it has, as evidenced by the comments visitors have written in the guest book.

Not skipping a beat Marla immediately resumed life following her treatment. One of their plans which had been put on hold by the cancer was working toward their amateur radio licenses. In February and March 2008 Kevin Kesler, KE7AAF, and Kevin Reeve, N7RXE, taught a Technician Class license course which they attended and which helped them earn their licenses in April 2008. Earning his license was something Scott had wanted to do since his youth and to learn the Morse Code. He also wants to earn his

General class license.

They are both active in the local amateur radio community and check in to the weekly BARC nets. They volunteered for the Clarkston 2008 bicycle race and the 2009 Top of Utah and 2009 LOTOJA events. For LOTOJA they were the Fox 1 vehicle and were assigned to provide first aid as needed; however, their first assignment was to clear a wide swath of puncture vine burrs from the road near Almaga. They went through all their inner tubes in the first hour helping the misfortuned bicyclists with their flat tires. For TOFU they were stationed at the 6.5 mile mark in Blacksmith Fork canyon and found that a handheld transceiver had difficulty reaching the '72 repeater. They have a pair of Yaesu VX-7Rs and plan to add a mobile transceiver. They see amateur radio as essential in wilderness and emergency communications. Serving in remote villages in Belize and possibly being separated, their radios will help them to keep in touch with each other. For backpacking, Kevin Kesler made an important point, that it is well to notify others what frequency your radio is monitoring.

A note to readers: if you know how to add a ham radio to a Harley Davidson please let Scott know. He has a CB with his motorcycle and needs some help adding his ham radio.

The ten mile drive across the valley each day is well worth the quiet they enjoy in Petersboro where they reside with their two dogs, River and Eddy, two cats, Jake and Elwood, and one chicken, Lucky and an occasional horse which they have boarded. Normally quiet and private people they decided to share their experiences with readers of this newsletter with the hope of reaching out and helping someone else.

(Presidents Message Continued from page 1)

earth-moon-earth communications, and digital communications from pactor, Winlink, PSK-31, to D-Star. And there is still more that I have not listed. There is something for everyone. Ham radio provides the broadest and most powerful wireless communication capability available to any private citizen anywhere in the world.

And for me, it is fascinating to explore the different aspects of amateur radio and I enjoy my time with the hobby.

Have a safe December and Happy Holidays.

73s, Cordell KE7IK



Membership in **The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club, Inc.** is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. You do not need an amateur license to join. Learn more online at http://www.barconline.org/ or by emailing membership@barconline.org.

The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club provides the following to its members:

- A repeater system that covers northern Utah from Bear Lake to Salt Lake Valley.
- An opportunity to meet and learn from other amateur operators. (Club meetings are held the second Saturday each month from October to May.)
- Events where you can practice your radio skills in a fun learning environment.
- Social activities where members can make friends and interact with other members.



Your tax deductible membership fees maintain the repeaters and support club activities.

The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Application for the Year 2010 Membership

Dues are in effect January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

	Call Sign	 Date Paid
□ ARRL member		
P.O. Box Street Address _		
City	State	Zip Code
Home Phone ()	Work Phone (()
E-mail		
(The BARC OHM Town News is sent to	the E-mail Addres	ss)
Individual Membership - \$25		\$
□ Addition Family members in same	e household - \$3 e	ea \$
□ Donation for Equipment purchase	es	\$
		Total \$
Names and Call Signs of additional fan	nily members	
Name Cal	II Sign	
□ ARRL member		
Name Cal	II Sign	_ BARL
□ ARRL member		BRIDGERLAND AMATEUR
Name Cal	II Sign	RADIO CLUB
□ ARRL member		
Mail your completed form and a check to: or pay online at http://w		

B.A.R.C. is a non-profit organization

Field Day 2009 Results

Field Day 2009 set an all-time record for both number of entries received by the ARRL (2642) as well as number of participants (37,592). Here are the ARRL results for the Utah section. BARC used the Club callsign of W7IVM at Field day (Jim Lofthouse is the trustee of the club callsign, thanks Jim). Those that came to our club Field Day event were given the opportunity to operate on the HF bands. There were many who had technician licenses that got on the HF bands for the first time and made contacts to other amateur radio operators.

We all think differently of Field Day. For some of us, this is our most fun contest. Some came to learn about Field Day, some came to try HF, some came for the camaraderie and camping, and all of us came to enjoy the dinner on Saturday evening. We hope that everyone enjoyed their time at Cheney Creek.

We are going to tentatively have Field Day 2010 at Cheney Creek. Again, there will be several of us that will go up early to hopefully claim an area before the weekend camping rush.

#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
1	K7UM	14,080	4A	4,624	2	K7UT	UT	33	Utah DX Assn
2	NC7X	7,040	1AB	619	5		UT	4	Manti CC
3	W7UT	6,670	2A	2,216	2		UT	5	Mesa Marauders
4	W7SP	5,014	2A	1,343	2	N7OVG	UT	54	Utah ARC
5	K7DAV	3,302	3A	841	2	N7CN	UT	130	Davis Co. ARC
6	W7IVM	2,508	4A	620	2		UT	50	Bridgerland ARC
7	K7UB	1,894	4F	539	2		UT	24	Golden Spike ARC
8	W7DRC	1,718	3A	393	2	W7DRCGOTA	UT	20	Dixie ARC
9	W7BAR	1,584	2A	241	2		UT	40	Borderline ARC
10	W7SU	1,470	2A	610	2		UT	10	Ogden ARC
11	N7GTE	1,290	1E	619	2		UT	1	
12	N7ARE	1,215	1B1B	153	5		UT	1	
13	W7DHH	1,000	1A	450	2		UT	14	Skyline ARC
14	K7NS	950	2B2B	60	5		UT	2	
15	K7CSW	842	2A	158	2		UT	8	Salt Lake Peanes ARC
16	K7NAL	738	1E	284	2		UT	2	
17	AC7JW	694	1B1	147	2		UT	1	
18	WI7J	560	3E	92	2		UT	5	
19	K7DLX	466	3D	165	2		UT	5	
20	KC7PVD	186	1E	18	2		UT	1	
21	N7HIT	130	1D	40	2		UT	1	
22	K7BBR	74	1D	6	2		UT	1	
23	KB0LQJ	60	1D	5	2		UT	1	

The ARRL Letter for November 19, 2009

Hints & Kinks: PL-259 Connector Tool for Coax Cables

Tired of using pliers to screw on the PL-259 connectors when you are preparing cables? Pliers always seem to do some damage by the amount of force this task requires. I use an inexpensive 1/2 inch PVC female to male coupler. Simply use a step drill and ream out the female end (see the arrow in the photo). This works for most half inch coaxial cables. PL-259s do vary in diameter. Be sure to measure yours before you ream out the

PVC adapter. It will not take a lot of reaming for the connector to fit snugly. The outer part of the PL-259 that fits into the connector



is 0.55 inch diameter. This makes a secure fit. If you wear out the adapter, purchase another, as they are inexpensive. This works for me. -- 73, Paul Marsha, K4AVU, 200 Garden Trail Ln, Lexington, SC 29072-7341

ARRL Bulletin 35 ARLB035 November 30, 2009 FCC Looks to Revise, Clarify Vanity Call Sign Rules

On Wednesday, November 25, the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) -- WT Docket No. 09-209 -- seeking to amend the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules to clarify certain rules and codify existing procedures governing the vanity call sign system, as well as revise certain rules applicable to club stations.

According to the FCC, almost 80,000 licensees have replaced their sequentially issued Amateur Radio call signs with a vanity call sign since the program began in 1996. When the program began, the Commission established what they called "the broad outlines" of the vanity call sign system, concluding that call signs generally should not be available for reassignment for two years following the death of a licensee, or expiration or termination of the license for that call sign. In doing so, the Commission made exceptions for former holders of the call sign, close relatives of a deceased former

holder and club stations of which a deceased former holder was a member.

The Commission did not, however, specify all of the procedures governing the vanity call sign system, but indicated that the procedures "would be set out in the Public Notices announcing 'starting gates' for the groups receiving initial priority and that the procedures would be adjusted from gate to gate as experience dictated." The procedures announced in the Public Notices announcing the gates are still in effect, but they are not set forth in the Commission's Rules.

The NPRM states that the FCC "now believe[s] that certain provisions should be codified in our rules, and others added, so that the vanity call sign system will be fair, equitable and transparent to all amateur service licensees. The Commission also decided in the Vanity Report and Order [issued in 1996] to resume issuing new club station licenses. We believe that certain rule changes to the club station licensing rules may be appropriate."

Further information can be found on the web at, http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/11/25/11220/?nc=1.

The ARRL Letter for December 3, 2009

Now You Know!: A Brief History of Modern Day 160 Meters

By ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the ARRL 160 Meter Contest. In 1970, the ARRL Board of Directors authorized this new event at their meeting in May. According to the announcement that appeared in the October 1970 edition of QST, the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee (CAC) and "numerous 'top banders'" provided the guidance for the contest; based on their recommendations, they created its initial format.

Those licensed prior to May 1981 can surely remember the limitations on 160 meters due to the LORAN-A (Long Range Aid to Navigation) stations. These stations -- developed during World War II -- used signals that were transmitted on frequencies in and around our present-day 160 meter band. The LORAN-A stations were responsible for reduced Amateur Radio operations -- including frequency and power limitations -- on 160 meters in the United States.

If you look at license manuals from this time, you will find a chart (Part 97.61, Authorized Frequencies and Emissions) that dictated how much power amateurs could use on topband. This was broken up into band segments of 25 kHz, going from 1800 kHz up to 2000 kHz. In band segments of 25 kHz, it lists each US state and dictated how much power could be used during

the day *and* during the night. For example, amateurs in Connecticut on 1844 kHz could use 100 W during the day, but had to go down to 25 W at night; Connecticut hams were not even allowed on during the day *or* night between 1850-1975 kHz! Conversely, Oklahoma hams had daytime topband privileges of 1000 W and could use 200 W at night on 1800-1825 kHz.

On May 21, 1981, US amateurs got some good news when the FCC lifted most of the restrictions on 1800-1900 kHz: For the first time, kilowatt powers were authorized for both daytime and nighttime use as the LORAN-A stations were being phased out. In 1979, the Coast Guard began replacing the LORAN-A stations with LORAN-C stations. These newer stations operate on 100 kHz, enabling the restrictions on 160 meters due to LORAN functions to be dropped.

Most amateur transceivers didn't even begin to include 160 meters until the influx of Japanese imports began in the 1970s. As a result of that -- as well as the elimination of the HF LORAN system -- 160 meters has grown in popularity over the past couple of decades. Now in its 40th year, the ARRL 160 Meter Contest is still growing. From the first running in 1970 with 270 logs submitted, to 2008 with 1280 logs submitted, more amateurs are becoming fascinated with all that topband has to offer. If you've never been on 160 before, try making a few contacts. If you're a topband veteran, this is the chance to strut your stuff. For more information on 160 meters, check out *DXing on the Edge: The Thrill of 160 Meters* by Jeff Briggs K1ZM. *Now you know!*



"Mr Top Band" Stew Perry, W1BB, devoted much of his life to demonstrating what was possible 160 meters, receiving DXCC #1 for 160 on November 1, 1976. Through his W1BB 160 meter bulletins -- which he circulated to others for free -- he encouraged interest in the band until his death in 1990. Click here to read more about Stew and 160 meters. [Photo courtesy of Jeff Briggs, K1ZM]

The ARES E-Letter for November 18, 2009

ARRL Officials Attend Emergency Managers Confab

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) 2009 Annual Conference was held earlier this month in Orlando, Florida. ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD and Southeastern Division Director Greg Sarratt, W4OZK represented the League. During the event, Dura and Sarratt networked with emergency management staff from around the United States giving Amateur Radio exposure in the superb five-day conference. The results of this interaction were a clear invitation by all that Amateur Radio needs to maintain its status as a significant contributor to the readiness and response capabilities of this country.

The IAEM Conference and EXPO promoted current trends and topics, information about the latest tools and technology in emergency management, homeland security and overall preparedness. Sessions included stakeholders at all levels of government, the private sector, public health and related professions that exchanged ideas and information on collaborating to protect lives and property from disaster. This year's conference attendance was a record breaking 2043 attendees, including emergency managers, homeland security officials, first responders, NGO's, military, private industry and Amateur Radio.

FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate was the Keynote Speaker. Mr. Fugate was previously the Director of Florida's Division of Emergency Management. He talked about the need to build teams, relationships and partnerships with all sectors of volunteer or unpaid professionals in all phases of emergency management.

Not surprisingly, many emergency management staff are Amateur Radio licensees--something that comes forth clearly in the many discussions that were had. Dura and Sarratt had discussions with IAEM leadership on pending legislation and regulatory issues. Outgoing President Russell Decker, in one of his last official acts on behalf of the IAEM-USA Board came forth with written support of Amateur Radio with Senate Bill 1755 and House of Representatives Bill HR-2160. This effort was spearheaded within the IAEM by Past President Larry Gispert, KR4X. Additionally, IAEM leadership expressed the strong desire that Amateur Radio and the ARRL participate more actively in IAEM around the country and at future annual conferences through training classes, workshop sessions and informational exhibits. -- Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, ARRL Southeastern Division Director

Questions for Extra Class License

- 1. (E1A05) Which is the only amateur band that does not permit the transmission of phone or image emissions?
- A. 160 meters
- B. 60 meters
- C. 30 meters
- D. 17 meters
- 2. (E2A02) What is the direction of a descending pass for an amateur satellite?
- A. From north to south
- B. From west to east
- C. From east to west
- D. From south to north
- 3. (E3A11) What transmit and receive time sequencing is normally used on 144 MHz when attempting a meteor-scatter contact?
- A. Two-minute sequences, where one station transmits for a full two minutes and then receives for the following two minutes
- B. One-minute sequences, where one station transmits for one minute and then receives for the following one minute
- C. 15-second sequences, where one station transmits for 15 seconds and then receives for the following 15 seconds
- D. 30-second sequences, where one station transmits for 30 seconds and then receives for the following 30 seconds

- 4. (E4E05) How can noise from an electric motor be suppressed?
- A. By installing a ferrite bead on the AC line used to power the motor
- B. By installing a brute-force AC-line filter in series with the motor leads
- C. By installing a bypass capacitor in series with the motor leads
- D. By using a ground-fault current interrupter in the circuit used to power the motor
- 5. (E6A15) What two elements widely used in semiconductor devices exhibit both metallic and nonmetallic characteristics?
- A. Silicon and gold
- B. Silicon and germanium
- C. Galena and germanium
- D. Galena and bismuth
- 6. (E7B14) What is one way to prevent thermal runaway in a transistor amplifier?
- A. Neutralization
- B. Select transistors with high beta
- C. Use degenerative emitter feedback
- D. All of the above

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December, 2009

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