



# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

*Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club*

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

## March 2011

### *Some Contents...*

Presidents Message .....2

Upcoming Activities .....3

Ham Profile: Russell Leikis.....4

2011 Rocky Mountain Division Convention ....6

ARRL News.....7-9

Club Membership Application ..... 10

Test Questions for Technician Class License ..11

2011 Club Officers.....12



ARRL Affiliated



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last month I talked about the National Broadband Plan where the upper frequency spectrum may be changed in certain areas to accommodate the NBP. Amateur radio users have many frequency band segments in that upper frequency spectrum allocated for its use. There is a bill, H.R. 607, being sent to the House committee on Energy and Commerce which handles telecommunications-related legislation that proposes to place the 420-440 MHz segment, among other RF spectrum, up for auction in several years' time. The amateur radio 70 cm band is from 420 to 450 MHz. The text of this legislation is available to the public on THOMAS, the Library of Congress's site. To find the legislation, go to <http://thomas.loc.gov>. In the box labeled "Legislation in Current Congress," select "Bill Number", enter "H.R. 607" in the box, and click on the "SEARCH" button. Also, the ARRL has some information on this bill at <http://www.arrl.org/news/spectrum-management-bill-threatens-amateur-frequencies>.



The ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director, Brian P Milesosky N5ZGT, recently sent out a message to notify ARRL members of this bill and to give us a way to respond to this bill so that our opposition may be heard. Here is Brian's message:

Subject: 70-cm band Threat -- Sample letter available

Fellow Hams --

This weekend I sent an email providing details about a piece of legislation that's been proposed in the United States House of Representatives, posing a direct threat to our popular 70-centimeter band.

Cut to the chase, H.R. 607 (the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011") in its present form requires, among other spectrum, the auctioning of 65% of our 70-centimeter band to business users within 10 years of passage. This is to generate revenue that is estimated to be lost as a consequence of setting up and maintaining spectrum in the 700 MHz range for public safety use.

This email is to inform you that a sample letter opposing this legislation in its present form (specifically because it requires a significant amount of our 70-centimeter band to be auctioned) is now available for all ARRL members and general hams to use in making their voices heard. I encourage everyone who reads this email to act quickly since this legislation is reportedly gathering steam in Congress. Please promptly visit <http://www.arrl.org/sample-letters> where you will find background information on H.R. 607, the sample letter ready for you to use, and instructions on how to submit your letter.

A word of emphasis on submitting your letter: Please do NOT mail it directly to your Representative. Due to security measures in place on Capitol Hill, letters to members of Congress are not delivered until they are screened; a process which has been taking literally 6-8 weeks. Don't let your letter potentially become ineffective due to this delay.

Instead, everyone is asked to mail (ideally) or fax/email their completed and signed letter to ARRL's Washington representative, John Chwat, at Chwat & Co. Doing so will not

*(Presidents Message [Continued](#) on page 5)*

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Club Meeting - 12 March, 1:00 PM (Different time this month)  
This will be the annual ECOM presentations & training

ARES Meeting - 16 March, 7:00 PM

RACES HF Net - 19 March, 8:00 AM 3920 KHz

Club Meeting - 9 April, 10:00 AM

RACES VHF Net - 21 April, 8:00 PM

Club Meeting - 14 May, 10:00 AM

Mountain Man Rendezvous - 24-25 May

RACES HF Net - 28 May, 8:00 AM 3920 KHz

Little Red Riding Hood Bicycle Race - 4 June

Tour De Cure (Box Elder Co.) - 11 June

RACES VHF Net - 16 June, 8:00 PM

Radio Rocket Recovery - 16-18 June

Wasatch Back Relay - 17 June

Field Day - 25-26 June

MS 150 - 25-26 June



---

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.

---

A new local web site that has some great information:  
<http://ready.sfd-ccems.org>

---

Ladies' Net will be held March 8th (Tuesdays) at 8:00 p.m. on the Valley Floor Repeater (146.640)

# HAM PROFILE

Russell Leikis - KE7VFI

Russell Leikis grew up in Orem, UT with amateur radio being a big part of his father's life. His father began his career as an electrical engineer and the technical hobbies that came along with that inspired Russell at a very early age to follow along. As early as he could remember, Russell was interested in the gadgets his dad was playing with, be it their family's first personal computer, the Heathkit/Zenith television he built, or any number of home brew electronic projects he was working on. (Russell still fondly remembers the Caller ID prototype he came up years before the phone company did). In the latter half of elementary school, Russell started taking after-school classes on electrical circuits, simple robotics, and basic PC programming.

His entry into amateur radio didn't go as smoothly as most stories go. Around the time Russell was 8 years old, his father was his scoutmaster and so every year he played a key role in Jamboree on the Air. Between that and helping him install antennas and other equipment, and Field Days on top of the Wasatch Range on the Alpine Loop. Early on Russell was fascinated at the technology and proud of the camaraderie between Hams worldwide.

When his dad approached Russell about finally getting his amateur license, he didn't even have to nudge at all. The goal was to take his exam at the Ham Convention in Park City later that year, and to boot his mother joined in on the fun as well! They all practiced together, and when the time came they all passed their written exams. Unfortunately, he still wasn't very comfortable with the Morse Code then. As time passed Russell, still struggling with it, turned into an obnoxious teenager, and nearly forgot about ham radio altogether. Over those years Russell continued to help his dad with all of his many projects including installing his dream radio tower behind his home.

Almost twenty years after passing his first written exam, his father called him to help with LOTOJA. This time Russell was determined to get his Technician license so he could help on the radio with his very own call sign. He started taking practice tests, and in short time he recalled what he knew as a child. He had to drive to the Salt Lake City EOC to get to an exam session in time to get his license for the race, and confidently passed the test. One month later Russell was on the air and on the road to Jackson Hole as KE7VFI!

Russell's favorite hobbies within Ham Radio are antenna building, AMSAT, APRS, and public service. Two years ago he took the challenge of coordinating the Cache Valley Biathlon, one the smaller events that BARC supports. Last year when the opportunity to step up and coordinate the Little Red Riding Hood bike ride came up, Russell jumped for it with butterflies in his stomach and a lump in his throat. This year he is doing it again and is very excited to have the opportunity to lead the effort of growing support for this event. LRRH 2011 is on June 4th this year and he is busy as can be. "We are adding three badly needed lead positions to help with the large volunteer effort that is required to support the amazing 3,000 all-female riders." Russell explains, "In addition, we are seeking more radio volunteers than in previous years to better cover the 5 courses that total 290 miles." Russell really enjoys being a member of BARC and participating in the camaraderie he has come to know

*(Continued on page 5)*





Bill Neville WA7KMF - Presidents Award



Bill is one of the ones that received a special Presidents award from the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club recently.

### Other Local Events:

The **Smithfield City Citizens Corps Council** has been meeting regularly and will be sponsoring a Technician level radio license class starting on Thursday April 14th from 6 - 9 PM and continuing on April 21st, 28th and May 12th with an FCC license exam at 9 AM on Saturday May 14. All classes and the test will be at the Smithfield Fire Station, located at 325 West 100 North. To preregister for the course or for more info contact Gary Roberts at [gary.roberts@sfd-ccems.org](mailto:gary.roberts@sfd-ccems.org) or call 435-563-3056 ext. 402

Some other events that will be sponsored there:

A family and friends CPR training class on April 7 at 6 PM, the cost will be \$3

A training class on flood preparation sand bagging

For more information on these and other topics and links to other web sites check out <http://ready.sfd-ccems.org>

## 2011 Rocky Mountain Division Convention announcement

Fellow Hams --

At long last, we are pleased to announce the 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention!

For the last several years each Section within our great Division has hosted the Convention on a rotating basis, and this year is New Mexico's turn. The 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention will take place August 5-7 (Friday through Sunday) in gorgeous Taos, New Mexico at the Sagebrush Inn hotel and Convention center. The theme of this year's Convention is "(Re)Discovering the Thrill of Ham Radio."

Here is just a HINT of what is being planned:

New/used ham equipment sales, major manufacturers and vendors (details below), outdoor tailgating, technical and non-technical forums, banquet meals with notable speakers, homebrew challenges, W1AW/5 special event station, CW pileup contest, club/manufacturer sponsored hospitality suites, prizes galore, antenna shootout, transmitter hunts, Boy Scout radio merit badge class, midnight Wouff Hong ceremony, satellite QSO demonstrations, high speed CW copying contest, a possible high-altitude balloon launch with ham payload, and much more.

Activities around Taos will be organized especially for spouses and family members, making this Convention a perfect trip for the entire family in one of The Land of Enchantment's most alluring destinations.

Numerous manufacturers will be present, most of them having never been to a New Mexico hamfest until now. Yaesu, HRO (Denver), and Southwest Antennas and Accessories have already committed to being present. We are in close contact with Icom, Heil, Elecraft, Alinco, FlexRadio, Ten Tec, Byonics, DZKit, as well as Hendricks QRP Kits, and many others have expressed their interest to attend as well.

A Convention isn't complete without great guests and speakers. Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, retired FCC special counsel, will attend as will Chip Margelli K7JA, notable DXpeditioner, contester and co-star of the past but still popular "CW versus text messaging" segment that

aired on Jay Leno's Tonight Show. Additional guests are being lined up, and we'll announce them later!

All the details you'll need about the 2011 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention including registration and vendor information will appear at [www.2011Convention.org](http://www.2011Convention.org) (easy to remember, and easy to announce on the air and at club meetings). NOTE that the full website is still being developed with intentions to have it posted around Saturday, February 12. Event registration and hotel reservations at the special Convention rate will be opened shortly thereafter.

This event will be held in lieu of the Albuquerque Duke City Hamfest, which returns full-tilt in 2012.

Questions about the Division Convention should be directed to [info@2011convention.org](mailto:info@2011convention.org) and anyone wishing to volunteer their time and talent for this event should email [volunteer@2011convention.org](mailto:volunteer@2011convention.org).

Please bookmark [www.2011Convention.org](http://www.2011Convention.org) and please also mark your calendars for a spectacular Division Convention in beautiful Taos, New Mexico on August 5-7! We look forward to seeing you there.

-----  
ARRL Rocky Mountain Division  
Director: Brian P Milesosky, N5ZGT  
[n5zgt@arrl.org](mailto:n5zgt@arrl.org)  
-----

## The ARRL Letter for February 10, 2011

### FCC: FCC Adds New Country to CEPT Reciprocal Agreement for Amateurs



On Monday, February 7, the FCC released a *Public Notice*, adding a new country to the CEPT reciprocal operating arrangements for US citizens who hold an FCC-issued General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio licenses. US hams may now operate in Montenegro, as well as the other countries covered by the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), subject to the regulations in force in the country visited, to operate in those countries. CEPT has also set up Web sites that list all countries covered by reciprocal agreements. Read more [here](#).

## The ARRL ARES E-Letter for February 16, 2011

### Large EmComm Exercise in Georgia a Cooperative Effort

An emcomm exercise conducted by the Cherokee County, Georgia, ARES® group, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and a significant number of clubs throughout the Atlanta, Georgia North Metro area took place Saturday, January 15. It was the first exercise of this type or magnitude ever conducted in the state. There were more than 113 check-ins recorded during the drill, encompassing 16 counties. During the previous week Atlanta was crippled by a massive snow and ice storm, which served as the backdrop for the exercise.

Net schedules were formulated, repeater coordination and permissions for use were secured and net control operators were designated. Coordination with the LDS Church Bishops Central Storehouse (K4BCS) was a major focus. Finalization of all net schedules took place and the Friday afternoon e-mail notification was sent out to the participating ham groups. Five repeater clubs across Atlanta granted use of their repeaters for the exercise and were participating. In total, the drill involved five coordinated, simultaneous nets all working together and checking in on a schedule with the LDS Church Bishops Central Storehouse located in Tucker, Georgia.

Repeaters weren't the only communication conduits. Simplex was used on one net to test its effectiveness. Taking

it a level lower, some neighborhoods having ham operators activated an [FRS](#) calling tree making contacts with unlicensed residents and even, in some cases, sending runners out to get face to face contact with members that did not have access to radios of any kind. This went a long way towards adding realism. A few direct EchoLink check-ins to one net control operator also took place.

One Church unit tested an emergency preparedness plan and established a command center as part of that plan. They, as part of their operations test, formulated a simulated casualty and loss message that was transmitted and verified with the Tucker location.

The drill was so successful that several organizations are calling for a six month interval for similar tests. -- [Jim Alderdice, N1ABM](#), Woodstock, Georgia

## The ARRL Letter for February 17, 2011

### *Amateur Radio in Space: ARISSat-1 Deployment Postponed*

According to the AMSAT News Service, the deployment of the ARISSat-1 satellite from the International Space Station -- previously scheduled for Wednesday, February 16 -- has been postponed. The postponement was necessary because of changes in the work schedule for the February 16 space walk. Instead, ARISSat-1 deployment will be added to a spacewalk scheduled for July 2011.



ARISSat-1 team members prepare the nano-satellite for vibration testing at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. [Dave Jordan, AA4KN, Photo]

When launched, ARISSat-1 will add another dimension to science classrooms worldwide, in addition to space communications for the Amateur Radio community. Unfortunately this delay will considerably narrow the window of opportunity for US school calendar activities, but may provide opportunities for summer learning activities.

The project is a cooperative effort between AMSAT, ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station,) RSC-Energia (the Russian space agency) and NASA. The design, development and construction of the satellite were done entirely by AMSAT volunteers. Original plans called for the satellite to be hosted inside an old Russian spacesuit. But when the suit became unavailable, the radio equipment was modified and refitted to a newly designed space frame and named ARISSat-1.

After it is deployed from the International Space Station, ARISSat-1 is expected to be operational in orbit for up to six months. For more on ARISSat-1, check out this [article](#) from the February 2011 issue of QST.

### *Dayton Hamvention : Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, to be Honored Guest of ARRL and AMSAT*

Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, will be attending the 2011 ARRL EXPO - part of the Dayton Hamvention® -- as a special guest of the ARRL and AMSAT. While at Hamvention, Wheelock will share his experiences about using Amateur Radio in space. Wheelock spent six months on the ISS, seven weeks as ISS Commander; while on board the ISS, he, along with fellow astronaut Shannon Walker, KD5DXB, participated in the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Together, the two made 22 ISS-to-school and ISS-to-camp QSOs. Read more [here](#).



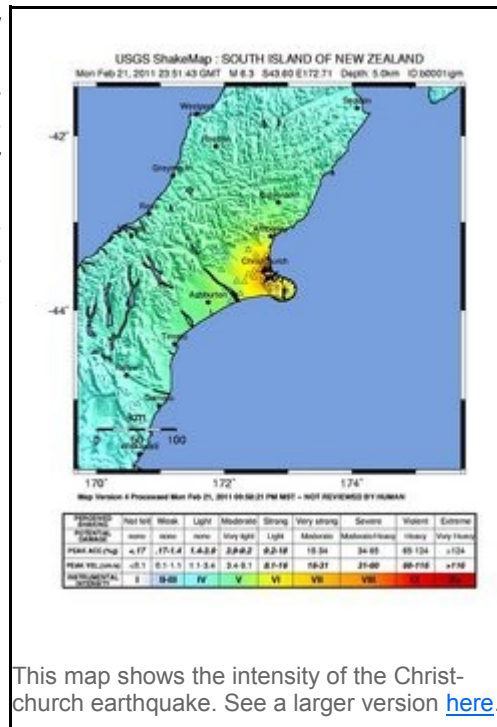
Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC



# The ARRL Letter for February 24, 2011

## Public Service: New Zealand Amateurs Assist in Earthquake's Aftermath

A 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck the Canterbury region in New Zealand's South Island on Tuesday, February 22 at 12:51 PM local time (2351 on February 21 UTC). According to IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee Chairman Jim Linton, VK3PC, 10 radio amateurs are using their two emergency broadcast vans to keep rescue teams and Civil Defense staff in touch. One is at a major welfare center, providing portable communication so they can talk to Civil Defense, and the other vehicle is on its way to assist search-and-rescue teams in an area where communication is poor. Read more [here](#).



This map shows the intensity of the Christchurch earthquake. See a larger version [here](#).

## In the News : Three Yachtsmen Killed by Somali Pirates were Hams

Four Americans -- including three Amateur Radio operators -- who were being held hostage on their yacht by pirates off the coast of Oman have been killed. Scott Adam, K9ESO, and his wife Jean, KF6RVB, along with Bob Riggle, KE7IIV, and Phyllis Macay were on board the *S/V Quest* when pirates boarded their vessel on Friday, February 18. The Adams were based in the Los Angeles area; Riggle and Macay were from Seattle.

According to the US Central Command, the boat was in the Indian Ocean, headed toward the Somali coast when on Friday, the 58 foot yacht sent a distress signal. The boat was being trailed by US Navy forces; it was about a two day sail from the Somali coast. They had begun tracking the yacht after being alerted that a Danish naval helicopter had seen the *Quest* off Oman under the pirates' control. The Central Command oversees US anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean.

Officials were in the process of negotiating for the Americans' release when gunfire was heard around 1 AM (EST) on Tuesday, February 22. "As (US forces) responded to the gunfire, reaching and boarding the *Quest*, the forces discovered all four hostages had been shot by their captors," a statement from US Central Command said. "Despite immediate steps to provide life-saving care, all four hostages ultimately died of their wounds." Read more [here](#).



Scott Adam, K9ESO, and his wife Jean, KF6RVB (pictured) -- along with friends Bob Riggle, KE7IIV, and Phyllis Macay -- were killed by Somali pirates on their 58 foot yacht early in the morning on Tuesday, February 22. [Photo from the Adams website].

Membership in **The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (BARC)** 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](mailto: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.
- Events where you can practice your radio skills in a fun learning environment.
- Club meetings are held the second Saturday each month from October to May. An opportunity to meet and learn from other amateur operators.
- Social activities where members can make friends and interact with other members.



Your tax deductible membership supports club activities and the BARC repeater system.

\*\*\*\*\*



### The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

#### Membership application for the year 2011

*Dues are in effect January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011  
New Members Only, individual membership dues prorated quarterly  
Please indicate if you or family member is an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) member*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL member

P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(The club's newsletter, THE OHM TOWN NEWS, is sent to the E-mail Address)

Individual Membership - \$25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Addition Family members in same household - \$3 ea \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation for Repeater upgrades / equipment purchases \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Names and Call Signs of additional family members

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL member E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL member E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL member E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club

Mail your completed form and a check to: B.A.R.C., P.O. Box 111, Providence UT 84332-0111 or pay online at <http://www.barconline.org/?q=node/242>

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

## Questions for Technician Class License



1. (T1A01) For whom is the Amateur Radio Service intended?
  - A. Persons who have messages to broadcast to the public
  - B. Persons who need communications for the activities of their immediate family members, relatives and friends
  - C. Persons who need two-way communications for personal reasons
  - D. Persons who are interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest
2. (T2A09) What brief statement is often used in place of "CQ" to indicate that you are listening on a repeater?
  - A. Say "Hello test" followed by your call sign
  - B. Say your call sign
  - C. Say the repeater call sign followed by your call sign
  - D. Say the letters "QSY" followed by your call sign
3. (T3C08) What causes "tropospheric ducting"?
  - A. Discharges of lightning during electrical storms
  - B. Sunspots and solar flares
  - C. Updrafts from hurricanes and tornadoes
  - D. Temperature inversions in the atmosphere
4. (T4A01) Which of the following is true concerning the microphone connectors on amateur transceivers?
  - A. All transceivers use the same microphone connector type
  - B. Some connectors include push-to-talk and voltages for powering the microphone
  - C. All transceivers using the same connector type are wired identically
  - D. Un-keyed connectors allow any microphone to be connected
5. (T5A01) Electrical current is measured in which of the following units?
  - A. Volts
  - B. Watts
  - C. Ohms
  - D. Amperes
6. (T6A11) Which battery type is not rechargeable?
  - A. Nickel-cadmium
  - B. Carbon-zinc
  - C. Lead-acid
  - D. Lithium-ion
7. (T7B07) Which of the following may be useful in correcting a radio frequency interference problem?
  - A. Snap-on ferrite chokes
  - B. Low-pass and high-pass filters
  - C. Band-reject and band-pass filters
  - D. All of these choices are correct
8. (T8C05) What is a grid locator?
  - A. A letter-number designator assigned to a geographic location
  - B. A letter-number designator assigned to an azimuth and elevation
  - C. An instrument for neutralizing a final amplifier
  - D. An instrument for radio direction finding
9. (T9A01) What is a beam antenna?
  - A. An antenna built from aluminum I-beams
  - B. An omnidirectional antenna invented by Clarence Beam
  - C. An antenna that concentrates signals in one direction
  - D. An antenna that reverses the phase of received signals
10. (T0B04) Which of the following is an important safety precaution to observe when putting up an antenna tower?
  - A. Wear a ground strap connected to your wrist at all times
  - B. Insulate the base of the tower to avoid lightning strikes
  - C. Look for and stay clear of any overhead electrical wires
  - D. All of these choices are correct

(For answers to test questions see page 12)

# BARC Club Officers

## *President*

Cordell Smart KE7IK  
[president@barconline.org](mailto:president@barconline.org)  
(435)245-4581

## *Vice President*

Tyler Griffiths N7UWX  
[vice-president@barconline.org](mailto:vice-president@barconline.org)  
(435)752-7269

## *Secretary*

Tammy Stevens N7YTO  
[secretary@barconline.org](mailto:secretary@barconline.org)  
(435)753-2644

## *Treasurer*

Kevin Reeve N7RXE  
[treasurer@barconline.org](mailto:treasurer@barconline.org)  
(435)753-1645

## *Board Members*

Ted McArthur AC7II  
[ac7ii33@gmail.com](mailto:ac7ii33@gmail.com)  
(435)770-9169

Guy Hatch N7WAT  
[gmhatch@yahoo.com](mailto:gmhatch@yahoo.com)  
(435)753-5459

Jared Luther K7LRX  
[jbluther@gmail.com](mailto:jbluther@gmail.com)  
(435)232-6907

## *Newsletter Editor*

Dale Cox KB7UPW  
[newsletter@barconline.org](mailto:newsletter@barconline.org)  
(435)563-3836

## *Web Page Editor*

Jacob Anawalt KD7YKO  
[webmaster@barconline.org](mailto:webmaster@barconline.org)  
(435)753-9033



Answers to questions on page 11: 1-D, 2-B, 3-D, 4-B, 5-D, 6-B, 7-D, 8-A, 9-C, 10-C