

THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

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May 2016

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is an update on the Amateur Radio Parity Act.

On a voice vote (12 Feb 2016), the US House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology has sent the Amateur Radio Parity Act, H.R. 1301, to the full House Energy and Commerce Committee with a favorable report for further consideration. The measure was among three bills the Subcommittee considered during a February 11 "markup" session. The Subcommittee is chaired by Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR).

This is a major step, because if they'd voted it down, this bill could not go forward in this session and might not have time to be reworked for another try. They passed it on a voice vote, but it appeared there was one committee member, Rep. Anna Eschoo from California, who has been wary of, if not opposed to the bill, based on lobbying she's received from an association of HOAs (the CAI – Community Associations Institute). Her comments in the session and those of Chairman Greg Walden and the bill's Sponsor, Rep. Adam Kinzinger of Illinois, all referenced the need to compromise on some amendments before the bill arrives at the parent committee, and noted that there hadn't been time to prepare new language for this "markup session" (when a bill is voted up or down).

At a January 12 hearing, both ARRL and CAI filed letters with the Subcommittee, although neither group had anyone testifying in person or answering questions. The CAI's letter contained 7 specific amendments they requested. The list of amendments had been around for a month, but the Subcommittee didn't get to them before the markup session. Instead, the discussion won't happen until the result surfaces, possibly in the full Committee.

As of April 14, 2016, **none** of the Utah Members of the House of Representatives (Rob Bishop, 1st congressional district; Chris Stewart, 2nd congressional district; Jason Chaffetz, 3rd congressional district; Mia Love, 4st congressional district) have signed on as Cosponsors with Representative Adam Kinzinger [Il-16], who is the sponsor of HR 130.

As it goes forward, hopefully our congressional representatives Sen. Orrin Hatch and Sen. Mike Lee will support this bill.

ARRL members are urged to contact their members of both the House and the Senate, asking them to sign on to the bill as a co-sponsor. More information can be <u>found here</u>.

73, Cordell KE7IK

UPCOMING 2016 ACTIVITIES

- 11 May, 7:30 PM ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Net 147.200/IRLP Node:9871
- 14 May, 10 AM BARC Club Meeting Summer Activities Presentation
- 17 May, 6:30 8:00PM Elmer Night Cache County Sheriff's Office
- **18** May, 7:00 PM Cache County **ARES meeting** at the Sheriff's Office
- **21** May, 8:00 AM **RACES HF Net** 3920 KHz
- 21 May, Randy Wirth Half Century bicycle race Stan Laughlin & Scott Boyer (Info)
- **02** June, 7:00 PM—VEC License **Test Session** @ USU Eng. Bld (NEW) Rm 302
- **04** June, **Little Red Riding Hood** bicycle race Russ Lekis (More Info)
- **08** June, 7:30 PM -- **ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Net** 147.200/IRLP Node:9871
- 14-18 June, Bridgerland Radio Rocket Recovery —Brandon Tibbitts (Info)
- 15 June, 7:00 PM Cache County ARES meeting at the Sheriff's Office
- **16** June, 8:00 PM **RACES VHF Net** 147.180 Snowbird 147.20 IRLP 146.72 Mt. Logan
- 17 June, Wasatch Back Relay Tyler Griffiths (More Info)
- 25-26 June, Field Day in place of regular BARC Club Meeting (More Info)
- 8-9 July, Utah State ARRL Convention/Great Salt Lake Hamfest (More Info)

For more calendar information see the <u>barconline.org/calendar</u>

Local Radio Nets:

The **Weekly BARC net** is for BARC members and anyone else that would like to check in, held **every Tuesday night at 9:00 p.m.** local time on the Mt Logan BARC Repeater and Linked Systems (146.720)

The **BARC Ladies Net** is every **2nd and 4th Tuesday at 8:00 p.m.** on the BARC Repeater and Linked Systems (146.720). All licensed lady amateur radio operators are welcome to check in.

Amateur Radio News Line

Can be listened to at 8:15 on Tuesday evenings on the 147.200 IRLP Repeater

On Saturday, April 16, 2016 at the BARC sponsored an exam session.

The following individuals earned a Technician License:

Christopher Awes – KI7DWG

Weylan Dickey - KI7DWF

Aaron Fletcher – KI7DWJ

Sheridan Fletcher - KI7DWI

Michael Herrera – KI7DWH

Kyle Holgreen - KI7DWP

Maryann Irvine – KI7DWO

Terry Schmidt – KI7DWL

Nelson Seely – KI7DWK

Brian Washburn, Sr. – KI7DWQ

Joyce Winter – KI7DWN

Paul Winter – KI7DWM

The following upgraded to a General License:

Lana Baird – KD7ODS

Shawn Bliss – KB7WYO

Paul Carter – KG7OKR

Lee Crosby – KG7IVN

Ashish Derhgawen – KG7YKU

Lamont Doney – KE7IKN

The following individual passed both the General and Extra Exams:

Benton Porter – AF7YJ

Here is a summary of the number of exams given and new licenses earned at this session:

Technician License Exams Given:	15	New Technician Licenses Earned:	12
General License Exams Given:	12	New General Licenses Earned:	6
Extra License Exams Given:	4	New Extra Licenses Earned:	1
Number of Exams Given:	31	Number of New Licenses Earned:	19

Number of People Served: 24

Welcome to the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club to those that earned their first Amateur Radio license on April 16th, and congratulations to all that earned a Technician, General or Extra license.

A big thank you to all the VEs and other club members that helped with the exam session.

Richard Elwood KE7GYD VE Liaison

Field Day is part educational event, part operating event, part public relations event — and ALL about FUN!

Objective-

To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

ARRL Field Day

is an annual amateur radio exercise, encouraging emergency communications preparedness among amateur radio operators. It is typically the largest single emergency preparedness exercise in the country, with over 35,000 operators participating each year.



BARC regularly participates in ARRL Field Day which is held the 4th full weekend in June. Field Day for 2016 will be June 25-26.

About Field Day



Field Day is part educational event, part operating event, part public relations event. But most of all, we have a fun and enjoyable time operating the radios. Anyone can attend and participate, licensed or not, club member or not.

You can operate a radio (with a control operator present) in making contacts to other amateur radio operators, help with logging the radio contacts on a computer, or just watch and listen to a Field Day event. We use this opportunity to let everyone experience operating on

an HF radio. We are planning to have several radios setup, including one radio for digital mode (PSK, RTTY) and one for Morse Code (CW).

Field Day Location

Our Field Day location will be at the same location that we in previous years, a half mile up the Swan Flat Road. Click here for a map to the BARC Field Day site. The GPS coordinates are 41.9580 - 111.4884. It is about 30 miles up Logan Canyon on Highway 89 (just past the UDOT Maintenance Shed near mile marker 490), where you will turn onto Swan Flat Road and continue about one-half mile. We will be in an area that is west of the Swan Flat Road.

Field Day Site Locator- If you want to find a Field Day in other areas: Go Now

(Continued on page 6)

The area is open camping so there will be a few of us that will go up early in the week to claim a spot. There will be plenty of space for camping, so bring your camper and tent. A rental porta-potty will be at the site for the week. Those that can, arrive early during the week for some radio camping. We will have a radio set up during the week to use so we can enjoy the airwaves with less man made interference that in the valley. Come and enjoy the outdoors, play on some radios, we will be setting up a couple of antennas and testing them. If you have a radio or an antenna you want to try out, you can bring it up and we can put it on the air, either before or during Field Day.

We will have the BARC UHF Portable Repeater, 449.250- (T103.5) setup at the Field Day site. It will be connected to the BARC Repeater System (Mt Logan, Promontory, and Red Spur) during the week prior to Field Day.

Field Day Schedule

The week before Field Day all are welcome to come camp at the Field Day Site. We do this for several reason 1st is to hold the site. This is a very coveted site for Camping so we have a hard time making sure we are able to procure it. We also really enjoy the time up in the Forest and getting Antennas up in the air and making contacts setting up the Talk-in Repeaters and taking hikes. So come bring your Camping gear and have fun.

Field Day Pot Luck Dinner

We will have a POT LUCK DINNER on Saturday June 25th at 6:00 pm the club will supply the meat, Buns, Hot Dogs for Kids and Soft Drinks. Please Bring dishes to share with others Casseroles, Salads, Chips, or Desserts.

Field Day for Ladies

The Ladies will be doing a few things. More info to come....

Field Day Pictures











The ARES E-Letter for April 20, 2016 Oregon Amateurs Aid SAR Mission

Mike Moore, W7ECX, of Joseph, Oregon was relaxing with his family on Sunday night, March 20, 2016 when he received a galvanizing call at 9:30 PM through the local repeater: Mike Musia, KG7MVI, a member of Wallowa County Oregon Search and Rescue (SAR), was calling Moore with a report of a missing snowmobiler in the rugged Salt Creek Summit (SCS) area of the Wallowa Mountains, 36 miles southeast of Joseph. The Wallowa County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) had unreliable communications in this area and Musia wanted a solid link back to SAR Incident Command. Moore immediately linked the local VHF repeater to the Salt Creek Summit UHF repeater and VHF remote base. Both of these facilities are owned and operated by Scott Hampton, KB7DZR. Musia was on his way to the summit to check for what might be the missing snowmobiler's vehicle on advice from the SAR dispatcher.

After Musia arrived at the summit, he found a vehicle, took its license plate number, and radioed Moore through the SCS repeater system. Musia asked that Moore relay the license number to WCSO Deputy Paul Pegano for identification, who subsequently informed Moore that the vehicle registration matched the identification of the missing snowmobiler. Pegano requested help from SAR to mount a search and rescue mission. Pegano also requested that Moore join SAR Incident Commander Jim Akenson at the SAR IC trailer in Enterprise to provide ad-hoc training for rescuers on radio communications technique and their multi-mode radios before they departed for the search area.

Although Moore's involvement was scheduled for only one or two hours, he eventually stayed on with Incident Commander Akenson to ensure that all communication systems were running properly and that the search teams were versed in the use of their radios. In addition, Moore set up several SAR-owned GPS trackers for each SAR member to carry as an added safety measure.

Salt Creek Summit posed temperatures in the mid-30s with winds of 10 MPH, and a mix of rain and snow. The area was completely snowed in with the exception of the summit access road from a nearby highway. Access to the rest of the area from the summit is limited to tracked vehicles, skis, and snow shoes. The SAR team operated with snowmobiles hauled up on trailers via the access road to the summit.

As Musia and other SAR team members entered the search area, Musia maintained contact with Moore through the remote VHF base. On advice from the missing man's son, searchers started scouring the most likely route the snowmobiler might have taken. At 3:00 AM, Musia radioed back to Moore that they had found the missing man. Musia reported that the man was wet, cold, and dehydrated but otherwise in good shape. Moore then contacted deputy Pegano who then contacted the man's wife. The missing man's snowmobile ignition had failed several miles down the trail and he had walked back two miles in a snow storm to a temporary shelter. After a quick medical check, searchers brought the man back to the summit and immediately returned to Enterprise, where the man's wife was waiting.

Deputy Pegano told Moore that he was thoroughly impressed with the reliability of Amateur Radio installations around the county. Pegano went on to say he was gratified by the willingness of Amateur Radio operators to help out in an emergency.

During the search, Scott Hampton, KB7DZR, Moore's wife Joy, K7DMK, and Musia's wife Anna, KG7CWW, kept in contact via their radios and telephones, relaying information and brain storming ideas to further serve the effort. -- Story written by Tom Bingham, WB7EUX, Joseph, Oregon, with information provided by Mike Moore, W7ECX, Joseph, Oregon

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Baker to Vegas Relay Challenge Supported by Mass of Southwestern Hams

Hundreds of Amateur Radio operators, principally from California, Nevada and Arizona, came out to support the 2016 <u>Baker to Vegas Relay Challenge</u>, March 19-20. The more than one hundred hams from the ARRL Los Angeles Section made up a significant number of those providing communications support. In many cases the operators camped out overnight either before or after the event in order to accommodate the large event schedule. As in previous years, Joy Matlack, KD6FJV, was the Communication Director with significant help from Margie Hoffman, KG6TBR. Together they were responsible for organizing the amateur communications effort, which is no small task and involves nearly a full year of planning and preparation. This event played host to 264 law enforcement teams in a grueling 120 mile relay race course beginning just outside Baker, California (near the south end of Death Valley) and ending in Las Vegas, Nevada. Amateurs provided needed race staffing, but also filled potential emergency communication gaps in remote portions of the course.

Los Angeles ARES (<u>ARESLAX</u>) had teams covering/operating the Relay Challenge stages number three (#3), number eight (#8) and number nine (#9), led by DEC Roozy Mulbury, K1EH; ARES member Jim Stoker, AG6EF; and ARES member Carina Lister, KF6ZZY.

The winning teams by order were the LAPD Department Team, the LASD County Wide Team and the New York Police Department Team. This event allows the southwestern US amateur community to showcase its abilities to the country's law enforcement community. -- ARRL Los Angeles Section | Manager David Greenhut, N6HD



Tech Tip: ARES/RACES Powerpole Configuration

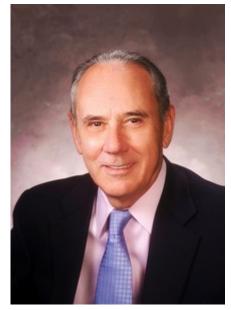
I switched all of my DC power connectors to Powerpoles years ago. I found that descriptions of configurations like "tongue up, hood down," etc. were not clear. I ended up looking at a picture for the correct configuration. An easy way to remember the ARES/RACES Powerpole orientation is: **Red on Right, Letter A Up on both connectors**. You cannot confuse the hood or tongue, etc.-- *Lew Wallach, N9WL, Albuquerque, New Mexico*

The ARRL Letter for April 21, 2016 New ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, Pledges World-Class Service, Openness, Inclusiveness

The ARRL's new Chief Executive Officer Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, got down to work on his first day in office on April 18 by promising to make the League's foundational business processes "rock solid" and bring them up to state of the art, which members have a right to expect. Gallagher, who arrived at Headquarters on February 29 as CEO-Elect, has now assumed the top leadership post long held by David Sumner, K1ZZ, who officially retired on April 18. In late January, all 15 ARRL Directors voted to elect Gallagher as CEO and Secretary, and Gallagher said he plans to build upon Sumner's legacy.

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During weeks of walking the halls and speaking with what he described as "the 95 outstanding employees we have here at Headquarters," Gallagher said he's seen a lot that's positive but acknowledged that some issues need attention.



ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF.

"My colleagues require the tools to do their jobs efficiently and effectively," he said. "When they don't have them it makes it harder for them to serve our members. We want to keep traffic moving. That will require investment and hard work, but we're going to do it."

Gallagher said some resources would be redeployed into areas that need more support, to improve or enhance the League's service.

The new CEO pointed to the recent example of more than 1000 issues of *QST* that were lost in transit to members' mailboxes due to a train derailment. "Within 24 hours, we knew exactly which copies had been destroyed, and the Circulation Department sent out replacement copies via First-Class Mail," he said. That's the kind of world-class service we want to perpetuate."

QST readers soon will see Gallagher's personal stamp on the monthly editorial, which he's renamed "Second Century." While it will be essentially the same format as Sumner's "It Seems to Us"

editorial, "the latter belongs to Dave," Gallagher said. "I don't think I could ever replace his erudition and his scholarship, or match his plain speaking, and I'm not going to try."

Gallagher also has promised a spirit of openness and inclusiveness to bring the enrichment of Amateur Radio to a wider community. "Greater transparency is my guiding principle, as well as that of ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and the goals included in the <u>Strategic Plan</u> approved by the ARRL Board of Directors ," he added. Gallagher invited members to take their suggestions and concerns <u>directly to him</u>.

Gallagher's assumption of the CEO post coincided with <u>World Amateur Radio Day</u>, which marks the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (<u>IARU</u>) in 1925. Read <u>more</u>.

EchoLink VoIP Service Proving Valuable in Handling Ecuador Earthquake Traffic

What you see on the news is only the tip of the iceberg of what really happened as a result of the devastating April 16 earthquake in Ecuador, Michigan physician Rick Dorsch, NE8Z/HC1MD, told ARRL. Since the 7.8 magnitude quake hit while most people were at home finishing dinner, "thousands of people" remain buried in the rubble of collapsed buildings, he said, although some have been found alive. Dorsch and his wife Maria, HC1MM, also a physician, have been helping to handle health-and-welfare traffic via <u>EchoLink</u>, which is connected to the Ecuadorean interlaced national 2 meter repeater network.

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"EchoLink is actually a fantastic Amateur Radio service," Dorsch told ARRL. "It has become extremely useful for the hams there to reach out to the outside world via 2 meters." (Other reports have indicated that some *EchoLink* nodes have been shut down to save power.)

HF also is playing a role, and radio amateurs have been asked to give 7.060 MHz (LSB) a wide berth while the Cadena HC Net handles emergency traffic. Dorsch said some problems have cropped up from DX pileups that have overlapped the net's frequency.

Dorsch pointed out that while most of the damage was in the The destroyed home of well-known DXer HC4 areas of Manabí and Esmeraldas provinces and the HC2 area of Guayas Province, what's *not* seen from the outside is



Lilian de Ayala, HC4L. [Courtesy of Rick Dorsch, NE8Z/HC1MD]

the heavy damage to surrounding small fishing villages and colonial towns that were leveled. Fortunately the Portoviejo Radio Club was undamaged, and members have been operating from there. Dorsch said that electrical power is starting to return, and the cellular network is still "iffy," but the Quito Radio Club is providing battery-powered cellphone charging stations.

A lot of health-and-welfare traffic is headed not only between Ecuador and the US but to Spain, Chile, and elsewhere, he reported. Dorsch said more bilingual Spanish-English speakers are needed on the HC1BG-R EchoLink channel.

While power has been knocked out over much of the affected region, Dorsch said, he's witnessing hams all over Ecuador operating from mobile stations, portable stations, and, in some cases, from home. "All of the Ecuadorean radio clubs have been on high alert and are helping in search-andrescue efforts," he said. "Ham radio at its best!"



Lilian "Mami" de Ayala, HC4L. [Courtesy of Rick Dorsch, NE8Z/HC1MD1

On a more positive note, Dorsch said that noted DXer Lilian "Mami" de Ayala, HC4L, barely escaped death or serious injury when her home collapsed. The 85-year-old, who lives in Portoviejo, was in her radio room seconds before the earthquake hit. "Her granddaughter had come over to visit, so Lilian went into another part of the house," Dorsch said. Her radio room and home were destroyed, and her next-door neighbor was among the casualties.

"She's still in shock and can't believe she's alive," Dorsch told ARRL. Local hams have removed her personal effects and ham radio gear to a safe location.

For more than 40 years, de Ayala had been a regular checkin on the Cadena HC Net on 40 meters. "It's ironic that the one person who lost all of her radio equipment was the one who organized radio emergency services for so many years," Dorsch said. Her tower and antennas survived, because they were mounted on the roof of her son's home next door. --Thanks also to Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, IARU Region 2 Vice President

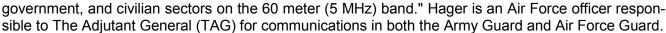
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Amateur Radio Praised Following Participation in Washington Interoperability Exercise

Amateur Radio came in for high praise following its role in a March 30 to April 3 Washington National Guard interoperability communication exercise, sponsored by the US Northern Command. The so-called "Vital Connection-Cascadia 2016" exercise was aimed at improving interoperability among Department of Defense entities, federal, state, and local first responders, and Amateur Radio operators. Interoperability was tested on 5 MHz frequencies. The spring drill was a run-up to June's "Cascadia Rising/Vigilant Guard/Ardent Sentry" exercise. It included voice and data radio and satellite communication plus video integration from airborne assets.

"The largest success of this exercise by far was the use of the 60 meter HF interoperability bands to successfully pass voice and data traffic between military and civilian entities," the *After Action Report* said. "There was great integration among military units from Washington and other states, Army and Air Force MARS, Washington State Guard, state and county EOCs, and the ARES and RACES Amateur Radio communities."

Lt Col Lawrence Hager of the Washington Air National Guard also had kind words for Amateur Radio. "I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Vital Connection-Cascadia [communications exercise]," he said. "We had many successes, such as HF radio interoperability between military,



"It was truly a pleasure exercising with you folks," allowed State RACES Officer Ed Leavitt, K7EFL, in a message to the Washington National Guard. "Thanks for inviting us." Regarding the use of the 60 meter channels as a conduit for outreach to civilian entities, Leavitt said, "While I am hesitant to use phrases like 'This has never been done before,' I suspect that may actually be the case."

ARRL Western Washington ARRL Section Manager Monte Simpson, K2MLS, who is also Washington State RACES Officer, said the feedback he's received regarding Amateur Radio participation has been positive. "The 60 meter band proved to be excellent," he said. "While at the State EOC I had the occasion to hear a 60 meter conversation that was crystal clear with nearly no noise. The Mason County Emergency Coordinator/RACES Officer reported that he had used *Fldigi* to communicate with the National Guard. The Washington State Guard provided soldiers who are Amateur Radio operators as the ham radio connection to the National Guard."

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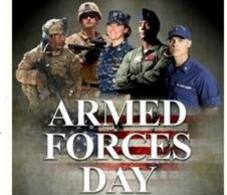
The ARRL Letter for April 28, 2016 Annual Armed Forces Day Cross-Band Communications Test Set for May 14

The Armed Forces Day Military/Amateur Radio Cross-Band Communications Test, sponsored by the US Army, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard, will take place on Saturday, May 14. The event gets under way at 1200 UTC, with activity continuing throughout the day. Some military stations may not operate for the entire period.

"New for Armed Forces Day this year, military stations and Amateur Radio operators are authorized to directly communicate on the 60 meter interoperability channels," US Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY, pointed out.

This year marks the 66th Armed Forces Day (AFD), observed on May 21. The Military/Amateur Radio Cross-Band Communications Test is held earlier, in order to avoid conflicting with Dayton Hamvention®.

The annual exercise is an opportunity to test two-way communication between amateur and military communicators. It features traditional military-to-amateur cross-band SSB and CW communication



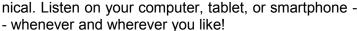
and offers an opportunity for radio amateurs to utilize modern military communication modes such as MIL-STD serial PSK and automatic link establishment (ALE). These tests challenge Amateur Radio operators and shortwave listeners (SWLs) to demonstrate individual technical skills and to receive recognition from military radio stations. The <u>complete announcement</u> -- subject to change -- is available on the US Army MARS website.

Participating military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and listen for Amateur Radio stations on selected amateur frequencies, which the military station operator will announce. Read more.

The Doctor Will See You Now!

"Does CW Really Get Through When Nothing Else Can?" is the topic of the current episode of the "ARRL The Doctor is In" podcast. Listen and find out!

Sponsored by DX Engineering, "ARRL The Doctor is In" is an informative discussion of all things tech-







Every 2 weeks your host, *QST* Editor in Chief Steve Ford, WB8IMY, and the Doctor himself, Joel Hallas, W1ZR, will discuss a broad range of technical topics. You can also e-mail your questions to doctor@arrl.org, and the Doctor may answer them in a future podcast. The topic for the May 5 podcast will be "Open Wire Line."

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Enjoy "ARRL The Doctor is In" on <u>Apple iTunes</u>, or by using your iPhone or iPad podcast app (just search for "ARRL The Doctor is In"). You can also listen online at <u>Blubrry</u>, or at <u>Stitcher</u> (free registration required, or browse the site as a guest) and through the free Stitcher app for iOS, Kindle, or Android devices.

If you've never listened to a podcast before, download our beginner's guide.

In Brief...

Three ESA "Fly Your Satellite!" Program CubeSats Now in Orbit and Transmitting: Three student-built CubeSats -- including the first to carry a D-STAR (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio) Amateur Radio payload into space -- now are successfully in orbit following an April 25 launch from Guiana. Signals from all three have been received on Earth. OUFTI-1 (Orbital Utility For Telecommunication Innovations), constructed by students at the University of Liege in Belgium (ULg), car-

ries the D-STAR payload. The other two CubeSats -- e-st@r-II and AAU-SAT4 -- are from Italy and Denmark, respectively. The three CubeSats were developed by student teams under the European Space Agency (ESA) Education Office "Fly Your Satellite!" program, which is aimed at training the next generation of aerospace professionals. The first three radio amateurs to send a recorded signal from OUFTI-1, AAUSAT4, or e-st@r-II will receive a prize from ESA's Education Office. Visit the ESA website for details.



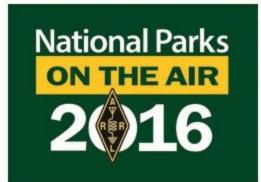
The ARRL Letter for May 5, 2016 National Parks on the Air Update

ARRL has an opportunity for those traveling to Dayton <u>Hamvention</u>® who want to activate an NPS unit for National Parks on the Air (<u>NPOTA</u>)! ARRL has secured an operating permit with the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historic Park in downtown Dayton. The special NPOTA activity will be available for visiting operators to enjoy activating an NPOTA unit without having to bring their own gear. The event will run from Friday, May 20, until Sunday, May 22, at the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center. Operations will be from 9 AM-5 PM on Friday and Saturday, and 9 AM-noon on Sunday.

ARRL Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator John Myers, KD8MQ, is coordinating on-site operations for the event. He is looking for volunteers on Friday and Saturday who would be able to help vis-

iting operators and/or explain NPOTA and Amateur Radio to non-ham park visitors. Even an hour or two of time as a volunteer would be helpful. Contact <u>John Myers</u> to volunteer or to sign up for a 15-minute operating slot. All slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis and all operators are limited to one slot, to make this opportunity available to as many visitors as possible.

There are 47 activations scheduled for May 5-12, including the first-ever activation of Buck Island Reef National Monument in the US Virgin Islands, and the George Rogers Clark National Historic Site in Indiana.



Details about these and other upcoming activations can be found on the NPOTA Activations calendar.

Keep up with the latest NPOTA news on Facebook. Follow NPOTA on Twitter (@ARRL NPOTA).

Questions for General Class License

- 1. (G1E01) Which of the following would disqualify a third party from participating in stating a message over an amateur station?
- A. The third party's amateur license has been revoked and not reinstated
- B. The third party is not a U.S. citizen
- C. The third party is a licensed amateur
- D. The third party is speaking in a language other than English
- 2. (G2E10) Which of the following is a way to establish contact with a digital messaging system gateway station?
- A. Send an email to the system control operator
- B. Send QRL in Morse code
- C. Respond when the station broadcasts its SSID
- D. Transmit a connect message on the station's published frequency
- 3. (G3C05) Why is long distance communication on the 40-meter, 60-meter, 80-meter and 160-meter bands more difficult during the day?
- A. The F layer absorbs signals at these frequencies during daylight hours
- B. The F layer is unstable during daylight hours
- C. The D layer absorbs signals at these frequencies during daylight hours
- D. The E layer is unstable during daylight hours
- 4. (G4D06) Where is an S meter found?
- A. In a receiver
- B. In an SWR bridge
- C. In a transmitter
- D. In a conductance bridge
- 5. (G5C14) Which of the following components should be added to an inductor to increase the inductance?
- A. A capacitor in series
- B. A resistor in parallel
- C. An inductor in parallel
- D. An inductor in series

- 6. (G6B06) What kind of device is an integrated circuit operational amplifier?
- A. Digital
- B. MMIC
- C. Programmable Logic
- D. Analog
- 7. (G7B04) Which of the following describes the function of a two input NOR gate?
- A. Output is high when either or both inputs are low
- B. Output is high only when both inputs are high
- C. Output is low when either or both inputs are high
- D. Output is low only when both inputs are high
- 8. (G8C03) What part of a data packet contains the routing and handling information?
- A. Directory
- B. Preamble
- C. Header
- D. Footer
- 9. (G9D04) What is the primary purpose of antenna traps?
- A. To permit multiband operation
- B. To notch spurious frequencies
- C. To provide balanced feed point impedance
- D. To prevent out of band operation
- 10. (G0A10) What is one thing that can be done if evaluation shows that a neighbor might receive more than the allowable limit of RF exposure from the main lobe of a directional antenna?
- A. Change to a non-polarized antenna with higher gain
- B. Post a warning sign that is clearly visible to the neighbor
- C. Use an antenna with a higher front-to-back ratio
- D. Take precautions to ensure that the antenna cannot be pointed in their direction

(For answers to test questions see bottom of page 15)

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Answers to questions on page 14: 1-A, 2-D, 3-C, 4-A, 5-D, 6-D, 7-C, 8-C, 9-A, 10-D

