K7EAR

November 2009

EAARS open repeaters. PL is 141.3 unless noted otherwise
Helio 146.860 and 440.700 EAARS Network, 146.900, 447.825 w/ closed remote PL 100.0 or 141.3. Packet 145.010 **MT. Lemmon** 147.160 EAARS Network **Pinal Peak** 145.41 EAARS Network **Guthrie Peak** 147.28 EAARS Network **Jacks Peak, NM** 145.21 EAARS Network
GMRS Repeater on Helio 462.625 PL 123.0

Next Meeting

Tuesday November 17th At the Search and Rescue building in Thatcher. Arrive at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:00 PM

Dues Renewal Drawing

Again EAARS is holding a drawing for a gift certificate from among all the members who have paid their dues for 2010 by December 15th, 2009. Larry will be at the next meeting to accept dues or mail your $24 to the club address. The letter MUST be postmarked by December 15th to get in the drawing. There is only one prize.

South Mountain Repeater

The OK has been given to install the repeater. As soon as the guys can free up a weekend it will happen. If you'd like to go and help, let Milt or Larry know. There is still some painting to be done plus installation of the radio's and antenna's and possibly some other minor things.

from ARRL Web

It Seems to Us: It Doesn't Just Happen

By David Sumner, K1ZZ
ARRL Chief Executive Officer

November 01, 2009

Are you enjoying the fall operating season? Whether it's because radio conditions improve or just because our attention returns to indoor pursuits as the days get shorter, on-the-air activity always picks up at this time of the year.

Do you operate on 40 meters? If you haven't been on the band lately, you're in for a real treat! Years of patient effort by the ARRL and by our sister members of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) have paid off. The band is more useful now than it's been in more than 70 years -- and ARRL members and supporters like you were essential to making it happen. I'm delighted to share this good news -- but I also must ask for your continued support to ensure that the ARRL will always to be able to do what's needed to defend and improve your access to the radio spectrum.

When you think of 40 meters, you probably think of interference from foreign broadcasters. Here in the Americas, amateurs always have had access to 7,000-7,300 kHz -- but we had to tolerate broadcasters in the rest of the world in the upper two-thirds of the band. I can recall the futility I felt as a 13-year-old Novice, trying to make myself heard through the racket with just two crystal-controlled transmitting frequencies to choose from. I remember taking the crystal holders apart and putting pencil lead on the crystals in a vain attempt to slip in between the broadcasting behemoths.

Forty years later I had the great privilege of being present in Geneva when the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) agreed that we had made the case for a wider worldwide amateur band, free of broadcasting interference. For the first time in the history of radio communication, an HF broadcasting allocation would be shifted in order to accommodate the needs of another radio service -- ours!

The WRC-03 decision was very gratifying, but an important question remained: Would the broadcasters really move? The International Telecommunication Union has no enforcement authority, and operation in contravention of the international Radio Regulations is not exactly unknown. As it turned out, the transition was quite dramatic. On Friday evening of the last weekend of March, 7,100-7,200 kHz was full of broadcasters as usual -- but as the new seasonal broadcasting schedule took effect on Saturday night the band cleared of all but a few. For the very first time our overseas friends could hear us on 40 meter phone without having to breach the wall of broadcasters! Over the past six months the situation has continued to improve as more broadcasters have complied with the WRC-03 decision. Nighttime operation above 7,200 kHz remains a challenge, but it's not an exaggeration to say that 40 meters is like a whole new band. As a member recently commented, "For the first time I can ragchew with Europeans on 40 meterphone from Oklahoma!"

Moving hundreds of broadcast transmitters in dozens of countries out of a band didn't just happen. It took years of patient effort by a global team of volunteers and ARRL professionals, working through the IARU, to overcome objections and marshal the necessary support. It was an expensive undertaking, and it never could have been accomplished without the voluntary contributions -- above and beyond their basic dues -- of thousands of ARRL members like you.

Even as we celebrate our reborn 40 meter band we must remember that it takes hard work just to hang onto what we have. Much as we like to pursue new and improved ham bands, most of our effort must go toward frequency defense. Every day, new uses of the radio spectrum are being conceived. Each one competes for spectrum access with incumbent radio services, including ours. Not only must we defend our allocations against well-heeled backers of licensed services, we must also try to prevent the pollution of the radio spectrum by unli-

censed devices. The fight goes on in Washington, Geneva, and around the globe -- and there's no end in sight.

You may have heard that the WRC originally scheduled for 2011 has been pushed back to 2012, and you may have thought that this gives us an extra year to prepare. In fact, the schedule has slipped by less than three months. Decisions are being made now that will determine how many administrations -- including the United States -- will support a new secondary allocation to the amateur service at 500 kHz, and whether proposals for allocations to oceanographic radars will threaten some of our existing HF bands. We are hard at work meeting these challenges, but we need your help.

So, in this annual appeal I must ask you to be as generous as you can in supporting the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. Members' past response helped us to keep commercial satellites out of the 144 and 420 MHz bands, to gain access to frequencies around 5 MHz, and to win our court challenge of the FCC's flawed Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) rules. New challenges keep cropping up. Currently we are working to ensure that new short-range medical devices do not impact our ability to use our UHF and microwave bands.

No one can predict all of the threats that Amateur Radio will face in the future, but this much is certain: there will be challenges, and the ARRL -- with your continued help -- will be ready and willing to meet them.

While your contribution is welcome at any time, it will help us a lot if you can respond by November 30 so we can plan for the coming year. Your donation by mail, phone or on the Web at www.arrl.org/defense is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Many thanks!

From Amateur Radio Newsline

DX

In DX, word that DL7VSN is once again heading to Tanzania and will probably be active as 5H1HS, this time from the Kilimanjaro area. He was expected to begin his operations on November 1st but the length of his length of stay was not mentioned. Activity will be 160 through 10 meters using mainly CW and RTTY. If all plans go well he may also get to activate his 5th Islands on the Air group from this DXCC entity for one or two days. DL7VSN says that he will also be in the Serengeti and Tarangire National Park starting November 18th, and hopes to be active from these areas as well. QSL via his home callsign. G4OHX, will be active as 5R8HX from Madagascar between December 28th and January 3rd of 2010. His operation will be mainly using CW. He will also be active portable Zed-S-5 between January 4th to the 17th. QSL direct only via his home callsign. If you are looking for a contact with Singapore then listen out for 9V1JP who is a new operator from there and has been active on 20 meters. James says via QRZ.co that he is in a very challenging environment and is trying hard to put out a decent signal on HF. He also says that in the QSL aera that he is in the process of designing them, and they should be good and ready to begin sending them out in the spring of 2010. JK2VOC says that he will be active from BA4TB station in China. This, between November 27th to the 30th including the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest on November 28th and 29th. QSL via JK2VOC. Lastly, YV5IAL will be portable CE0 from Easter Island between January 8th and 11th of 2010. This will be a QRP, portable, holiday style operation. Activity will use the PSK31 digital mode on 14070.15 kHz from 2200 to 0100 UTC daily. He may occasionally be on 40, 30 and 15 meters as well. QSL via this operation via his home callsign.

KIDS SOLVE THE DTV RECEPTION PROBLEM

If you or someone you know are having reception problems on your new digital television or converter box, the problem is likely with the antenna. Most rabbit ear or loop indoor antennas are insufficient for DTV reception. Unfortunately, a lot of folks are not allowed to put antennas on their roof. With a solution, enter Naiomi and Noah Miller. They are the pre-teen children of FCC O-E-T attorney James Miller. With a little help from dad, the two kids take you on a "Watch Mr. Wizard" like journey into how to homebrew your own indoor D-T-V antenna using the magic of science found in everyday living:

The antenna that the Miller kids built is based on the Gray-Hoverman Digital TV Antenna design but without the rear reflector. It in turn is rooted on the design of the late Doyt R. Hoverman who created and did the early work on this design long before the days of computer antenna modeling programs. More on this design can be found at www.digitalhome.ca/ota/super-antenna. You can see the video of Naiomi and Noah Miller building their home-brew version of it on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=YaYDtOqpTOI. Trust me when I tell you that it's a few of the best moments you will spend on-line this week.

THE WORLDS FIRST RADIO STATION

What is the world's first radio station? Although AM radio broadcasts were tested in 1906 and used for voice and music broadcasts up until WW1 it wasn't until 1916 in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania when 8XK began regularly scheduled broadcasts. 8XK would receive the first official broadcasting license in 1920 with the call sign KDKA. But there's more to this story. At 6:00 PM on November 2, 1920 the US presidential election returns were announced from a shack in East Pittsburgh by Leo Rosenberg and KDKA became the world's first commercial radio station. More on this story is at the National Museum of Broadcasting website at the U-R-L found in this weeks printed Newsline report. http://nmbpgh.org/conrad_project/historical_background/commercial.htm

(K3VR)

LUSAT-1 FALLS SILENT

AMSAT-Argentina reports that its LUSAT-1, LO-19 ham radio satellite stopped transmitting CW telemetry on 437.125 MHz on or around October 20th. LU1ESY says that he last received a signal on October 11th after which he noted a drift in the downlink frequency beyond the expected Doppler shift. AMSAT-Argentina says that it hopes to revive LUSAT to allow it to celebrate its 20 years in space next January 23. It also adds that it welcomes any reception reports of the now out of communications ham radio bird. (AMSAT-Argentina)

REFARMING TV SPECTRUM FOR BROADBAND

Federal regulators are considering taking back some spectrum from television broadcasters and

auctioning it off to wireless companies. This so as to increase the availability of wireless broadband services for the general public. At this stage, FCC officials are mostly trying to get input from broadcasters and others. The proposal will be released in February of 2010. TV station owners are likely to fight the plan, although the FCC is envisioning paying broadcasters for any airwaves that are repossessed and auctioned away. (FCC)

ENFORCEMENT:

IRMA FRAUSTO HAS COMPANY IN THE UK

You probably remember the story of Irma Frausto of Compton, California that we reported on a few weeks ago. Her amplified TV antenna allegedly self-oscillated on 840 MHz and caused interfere to a cell site. The FCC sent her a Citation even though there was nothing in the Commission's write up to suggest that she knew about the self- oscillations or had the wherewithal to eliminate them. Well now Irma has company. A 12 year old schoolboy in Great Britain by the name of Nickie Chamberlain has been busted because his self- oscillating TV antenna was interfering with air traffic over his home in Linslade, Beds in the UK. The Ofcom engineer ordered the father to dispose of the aerial immediately. Air traffic controllers first noticed the communication problems on the flight path into London Luton Airport on October 6th .According to Ofcom, pilots coming into land at the airport were loosing contact with the control tower because the faulty antenna preamp was transmiting on the same frequency as the aircraft radios. You can read more at http://tinyurl.com/yhj37ab (CGC, Telegraph.com)

UNLICENSED BROADCASTER HIT WITH $2500 FINE

The FCC has issued a $2500 fine to Frankie Grover of Lakeland, Florida. This for operating an unlicensed transmitter on 87.9 MHz from a location known as the Kingston Lakeside Inn and using the unassigned call letters WGBC FM According to the FCC, its agents used direction finding to locate the signal. On August 18, 2009, the Tampa Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Mr. Grover in the amount of $10,000. This, for the apparent willful and repeated violation of Section 301 of the Act. Grover submitted a response to the NAL. He admitted to operating the station but requested a reduction or cancellation of the proposed forfeiture saying the level of proposed fine would pose a financial hardship. He also provided the FCC with the required financial records to prove his claim. The FCC accepted his evidence and has reduced the fine to $2500 which he was given the customary 30 days to pay or to file a further appeal. (FCC)

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Nets

EAARS Net; Sunday Night 7 PM general check ins

Smart Net; Monday evening 7:30 to 8:30 Technical discussion

Weather Net Daily 5:30 AM collect local weather information

To get your own email at EAARS.com contact Larry, N5BG

EAARSOFFICERS at EAARS.COM

NEWSLETTER at EAARS.COM

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