

DELTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARKS

P. O. BOX 750482 MEMPHIS, TN 38175-0482 / VOL. 16 / MARCH, 2004



Welcome
to the

Delta Amateur Radio Club!

Visit our home on the web at: <http://www.deltaclub.org>

W4BS
REPEATER
SYSTEM

146.82, 147.36, 224.42
443.2 & 145.03 packet

MARCH 2004 CLUB MEETING

DATE: March 9, 2004 (2nd Tuesday - be there)
PLACE: Ellendale Church Of Christ, 7365 Highway 70,
Memphis, Tn. (2 miles east of Hwy. 64-Stage Rd.)
TIME: 7:00 PM
PROGRAM:

VE TESTING: Don't forget the monthly Volunteer Examiner testing session. Registration begins at 5:30 P.M. and testing begins promptly at 6:00 P.M. Please remember to bring **two forms of identification** and **copies of any existing licenses or CSCE's** you might have. Please be on time for registration, as you will not be allowed to enter the testing session after 6:00 p.m. This is to allow our volunteer VE team to finish in time to attend the club meeting. For more VE testing information contact...

Joan Thorne, KN4PM, VEC
Phone: 901-737-5795
E-mail: joant@mem.net

Please Remember: Deadline for Reports and Articles for the next issue of SPARKS is Friday, March 19th. All articles MUST be in to me by the deadline in order to be published in the next issue. Please forward all articles and items of interest to:

paulsonrj@bellsouth.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

To all of the Delta Amateur Radio Club Members:

I was talking with a club member on 2 meters the other day, and the subject came up of holding a club sponsored Rabbit Hunt.(Search for a hidden transmitter) I still have the rules that were used when we had hunts about ten years ago. Those usually were held on a Sunday afternoon, lasted about two to three hours, and presented an opportunity to get to know other ham operators a whole lot better. The best way was to have two amateur operators to a team. This way one could DF (direction find) while the other drove, sometimes two heads are better than one. Sometimes the team members were in different vehicles; this allowed them to triangulate quicker, but it did not provide the opportunity to get to know your partner as well, because most communications were done a radio frequency chosen by the team. Now is the time of the year to start this. All that is needed is a "chair-ham", a Rabbit, to set-up the first hunt. The winner of the first hunt will run the next one, because the winner becomes the next hunt's Rabbit. I will ask for a volunteer "chair-ham" at the March meeting.

As the club president, my predecessors and I believe that we have the responsibility to keep a tight control over

the amount of club funds spend. All of the members on your club's Board of Directors are continually trying to find ways to cut costs. The 2003 board realized that nearly half of club's expenses were attributed to the publishing and mailing of the newsletter each month. It was proposed and accepted by the club, to send the newsletters by e-mail, and or, post it on a web site. This method of distribution would be voluntary and with the knowledge that some of our members do not have access to this form of communications, we will still be sending the printed version. There is a cost saving point that we have to hit in order for this method to start to save any money.

If you want to participate, and see if the club can cut a large part of its annual expenses, please leave a good email address with us at the March meeting. When this proposal was brought forth there some discussion that if it were successful, the club Dues might be lowered. We will have to see how it goes, first.

Ned Savage, KA4BLL

**DARC
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
02/10/2004**

President Ned Savage, KA4BLL called the February General Membership Meeting for the Delta Amateur Radio Club to order at approximately 7:00 pm local time with 46 members and guests present.

Ned asked Ed, KD5IEI to give an update on Bill, KG4VAW, who is having surgery tonight. The membership observed a few moments of silent prayer for Bill's speedy recovery.

Tom, K4TTA introduced our featured speaker of the evening, Mr. Ron Totino. Ron is the Eastern US representative for ICOM America. He brought handouts and gave us a look at the newest Pro Series HF radio from ICOM. Ron also showed an interesting Power Point presentation of his trip to ICOM's World

Headquarters in Japan.

After a lengthy but very informative question and answer session by Ron, we proceeded with the usual introductions of members and guests while preparing for the next presentation.

James, KB4LJV presented another Power Point show highlighting our first fundraising project for the year. James has written several computer programs geared around amateur radio and is offering them to the club as a way to raise funds to support the club. The CD will be offered for a \$10 donation.

OLD Business:

The treasurer's report is exactly as what was produced in the February SPARKS as were the minutes of last month's meeting. The February SPARKS was mailed and most have received it by the meeting tonight.

Ned called upon Suresh, N9GSA to give a report on the 443.2 repeater status. The repeater is back up but the antenna needs to be raised to get above the new roof that was added to the building. This will probably require about 100' of heliastax. The phone line is not currently working at the site and he is working with the site owners to get that repaired.

Ned presented the budget as published in the February SPARKS. With no discussion the budget was approved by a unanimous vote of the membership present.

NEW Business:

Tom, K4TTA passed around a signup sheet for those offering their assistance with the Scout Merit Badge College, which will be on March 27 at the College of Engineering building at the University of Memphis. They need more volunteers and you can sign up for either the morning or afternoon session. All you need to bring with you is an HT. Coordinators will be Roger, KI4AJH and Ed, KD5IEI.

Terry, KB4KA announced that you can get your DXCC and WAS cards checked at the Hickory Withe DX booth at DixieFest.

James, KB4LJV gave a quick presentation on the project of the month, which was the PK-3 Keyer.

Rick, KE4NTI gave a VE report from tonight's session that there were 4 elements given with 2 new techs and 1 general written passed.

Ned reminded everyone present that Delta Club is a sponsor of DixieFest and that he encourages all that can to volunteer to help with setup, teardown, loading and unloading this weekend and to be sure and attend the hamfest.

Tommy, KD4TJO announced that he is still wading through the records last year and has found that new members for 2003 were never sent a new member package nor did they have a PIN number assigned to them. Some were advised to use PIN number one but that number will be deactivated soon. He pointed out to everyone that their PIN number is printed on the mailing label on his or her SPARKS directly below the club logo. Tommy also requested that all LIFE members of the club please take a moment and a stamp and fill out a membership form and mail it in.

Tommy also mentioned upcoming public service events. The Multiple Sclerosis Society Walk is on April 3 at Shelby Farms. Two weeks later, March of Dimes will hold WalkAmerica on April 17, also at Shelby Farms. May 23rd will be the date for the Memphis in May Triathlon.

On a closing note, Ned announced that in an effort to adhere to last year's board decision to stop mailing the SPARKS newsletter, we would only mail the newsletter on an as needed basis after the March issue. The newsletter will be published monthly but only in an electronic version. You can either download it from the club website or if we have your email address, one can be emailed to you when it is published on the

web. Alex, KE4GYR inquired if the club could vote on this and was informed that the club voted on it last year.

Mike Albonetti, KD4IHT won the drawing for the ICOM radio provided by ICOM America.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Tommy, KD4TJO, Secretary

MARCH 2004 SECRETARY'S REPORT

As of this writing, Delta Club has 227 members paid for 2004. We have 25 new members for this year and we appreciate the support of those local amateurs. I hope you will find a long time home here in Delta Club.

As stated in the February minutes and at the last meeting, I'm sorry to report that most, if not all those that joined the club as new members in 2003 did not get any new member information in the mail. Most of these members also did not have PIN numbers assigned. I have identified all of those (I hope) and all should have received information packs in the mail by the time this issue of SPARKS reaches your mailbox. Many of these 2003 members have already renewed their memberships for 2004 but a few have not. I hope you will accept the club's apology and continue to support the club.

The board of directors agreed at the February board meeting to turn off PIN numbers and change repeater codes for those that have not renewed by or before the end of March on the 31st of the month. If you have not renewed for 2004 yet, please do so as soon as possible. This will help me in having a little less controller programming work to do and more importantly, the club needs your support.

73, Tommy, KD4TJO, Secretary

VE CORNER

As usual the month of February is busy for the VE Team. Tuesday the 10th Saturday the 14th and Sunday the 15th. Thank you to the following VE's: Arlene AA5GX; Bill KC4SXT; Dick KK3ORS; Francis WA4ZYN; Jim AG4KM; Jim KI4I; Ned KA4BLL; Ray N4ARH; Rick KE4NTI; Richard AI4BN. Many of these people served our community all three days.

Welcome to Ham Radio the following:

Allen Bruton - KB5YXA - Extra
Scott Chamlee - KE5AIX - Technician
Kent Fipps - KE5AIY - Technician
Stephen Hughes - KI4EBV - Technician
Houston Johnson - KI4EAG - Technician
Beverly Mc Cullar - W4BEV - General
Roger Murley - WA4BJY - Extra
Michelle Phillips - KI4EAF - Technician
George Pope - KI4EBU - Technician
Wesley Reno - KD5VFH - General
Donald Suchan - KD5SPQ - General
John Vanzandt - N2WMD - Extra
Joseph Welle, Jr. - KI4EBT - Technician
John Whitten III - W5JWW - Extra
Allen Worley - N4NSJ - General

The testing session at DixieFest held many exciting moments. The best, however, was when one of the persons testing for morse code had a time limit on the CSCE. The CSCE was to expire on Feb 22 and nerves were on the persons side. After failing the first set of code I suggested the person take a walk and get a cup of coffee, come back and test with a different code test. After a while the testee returned and did as suggested, turned in the paperwork - took the ten question test and disappeared to the rest room. After, what seemed like an eternity, returning I asked if they would like to try a third session. When the response was no I said that it wasn't necessary and the persons legs about collapsed. We ALL GOT A HUG AND TEARS OF SUCCESS flowed. What a wonderful reason to be a VE - to able to help someone get a license that they have strived sooo hard for.

It was also interesting to note that at DixieFest we had 20 persons from 20 different stated cities.

THEY REALLY DO COME FROM NEAR AND FAR :

Alabama cities represented: Nauroo
Arkansas cities represented: Jonesboro, West Memphis
Tennessee cities represented: Arlington, Brighton, Brownsville, Camden, Centerville, Lakeland, Memphis, Milan, Millington, Oakfield
Mississippi cities represented: Brandon, New Albany, Southaven, Sumner, Tillatoba
Missouri cities represented: Koshkanong
Oklahoma cities represented: Tulsa

REMINDER: General Class question Pool changes July 1. Please study the correct pool for testing.

73, Joan KN4PM, ARRL VE Liaison

FHU ARC FOX HUNT

On April 24, 2004, the Freed Hardeman University ARC is running a fox hunt at Chickasaw State Park in Henderson, TN.

Also, FHU ARC has scheduled a ham radio swap fest for June 5. The swap fest will be a good chance to get rid of some of the stuff collecting dust in the shack or to pick up something you've been looking for at a bargain price.

<http://w4fhu.org/fox.htm>

PUBLIC SERVICE OPS

Spring is about to, well....SPRING and that means that it's time to get geared up for some good old public service work that amateurs are so well noted for. Actually, if you stop and think about it, DARC is the group that most of the area's service organizations turn to year after year for communications support. We, as a club, should be very proud of this fact and I

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PACKET UPDATE

Many hams have older radios that they use for secondary rigs or for digital modes. Keeping those older rigs going can be a challenge. Most used rigs are bought without documentation or manuals. If you own a Heathkit there is a web site that helps out. The site is the Heathkit shop where replacement parts are sold and repair guides help to get your radio going again. The site also has links to other sites, Heathkit photographs, and the ARRL database on all articles published in QST. They also have replacement power supplies for old Heathkits. The site is the project of Mike, WB8VGE with his current collection of Heathkit radios. If you are looking for a good site to get Heathkit information try <http://www.theheathkitshop.com/>

James Butler, KB4LJV

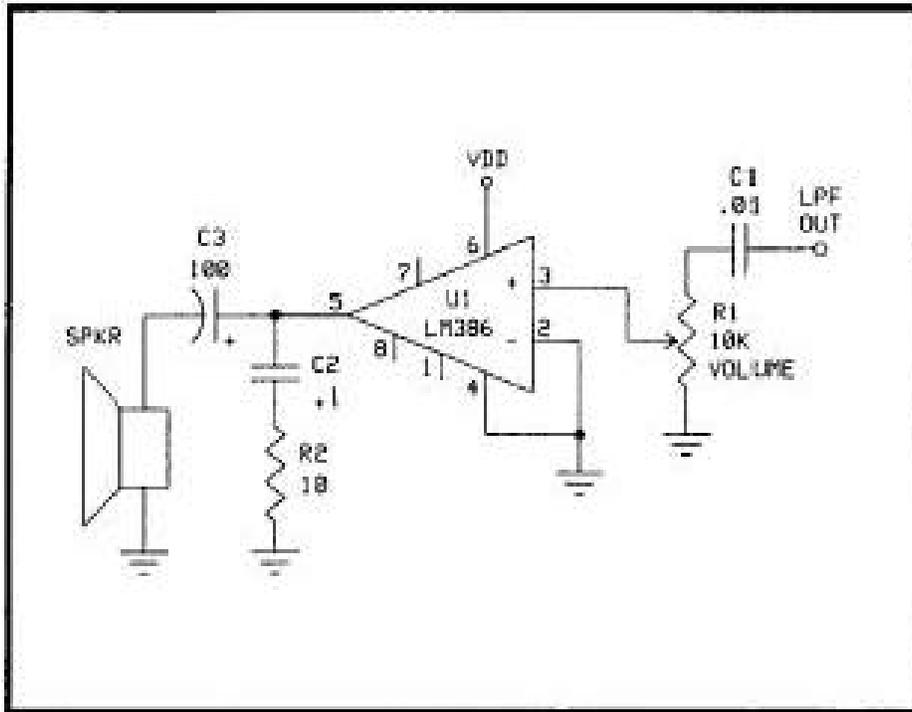
AMATEUR HARDWARE UPDATE

Many times when working with homebrew or kit built QRP rigs the audio can be low. The rig may have a headphone only low level output. Working portable this is OK but for constant home use a speaker is easier to handle for long periods of listening to the band. This month's project is a QRP AUDIO AMPLIFIER. The project allows you to hook up a speaker with enough audio power to turn up the volume for easy listening. The circuit is a common LM-386 audio amplifier circuit when can be homebrewed or purchased as a kit. I built the unit up in a surplus printer switcher case and painted it in two tone Heathkit colors to match some of my other QRP projects. The unit works well on those low audio output radios and is a welcome addition to my QRP collection of circuits.

I will have the QRP AUDIO AMPLIFIER at the meeting to show and answer questions on for those who wish to build up their on.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING

James Butler, KB4LJV



March

2004

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 Rick, KE4NTI	2 Sam, KR4LD	3	4 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM	5	6
7	8	9 Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM	10	11	12 John, WD4HZQ	13
14	15	16	17 Edgar, W4KIB	18 Art, KS4TZ Joan, KN4PM	19	20
21	22 Chris, W8BDH	23	24 Ned, KA4BLL	25 Dellert, KT4AB	26 Diane, KG4CAK	27 Jon, K4LLP Philip, KF4TAF
28	29	30	31			

April

2004

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 MARA Club Meeting 7:00 PM	2 Amber, KG4MLU Dan, N4QLK	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Rosie, K4MPQ
11	12	13 Delta Club Meeting 7:00 PM Karen Blinckmann	14	15 Rob, KD4SKT	16 Thomas, K4EOV	17
18 James, KB4LJV Paul, KG4GYV	19	20	21 Neal, W4EKD	22 Daniel, KG4LHU John, KG4OLG	23	24 Jennifer, KE4RKH
25	26 Jim, N4BSP	27	28	29 David, N5COO	30	

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hope many of you will help us this year. There are club members that I can count on being there every time I ask for volunteers and there are some that have never tried it. Especially all the new amateurs that have not had your ticket long, I ask you to at least give it a try. It's a lot of fun and all you usually need is a good reliable HT with a spare battery if possible. I think that if you give it a try, you'll find it a very rewarding part of your new life as an amateur radio operator.

Three upcoming events are:

April 3 - The Multiple Sclerosis Society's MS Walk Mud Island River Park.

April 17 - The March of Dimes Walk America will be at Plough Park.

May 23 - The Memphis in May Triathlon will be at Edmund Orgill Park.

More information on each event can be found on the club website under the Public Service link. You can also volunteer to help from that page.

Looking forward to a great public service year ahead.

73, Tommy, KD4TJO

FROM THE ARRL WEBPAGE

NPR Spotlights Addition of @ symbol to Morse Code (Feb 19, 2004) -- Some hams may have thought they'd left their transceivers turned on Tuesday, February 17, when the popular National Public Radio afternoon news magazine *All Things Considered* ran a piece about the pending addition of the @ symbol to the official international Morse code lexicon. That's because NPR introduced and closed the nearly four-minute segment with actual CW, catching the ear of many hams. ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, conceived of the

new character, necessary for transmitting e-mail addresses in CW, among other possible purposes. Assuming approval by International Telecommunication Union member-states, the new character--the first added to the code in many, many years--will be "AC" run together (---.). The new character, Rinaldo says, is both unique in the Morse world as well as a mnemonic (think of an 'a' wrapped in a 'C'). ATC co-host Robert Siegel interviewed ARRL Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL, for some background on the change, giving Lindquist an opportunity to mention his passion for mobile CW operation. The short feature, "Morse Code Enters Cyber Age," is available on the National Public Radio Web site.

PEGGY SUE GETS LICENCED

NEWINGTON, CT, Feb 19, 2004-- During the recent Buddy Holly W5B commemorative special event operation, Peggy Sue Gerron was perhaps the most prominent of the W5B guest operators. The namesake of Holly's 1957 "rockabilly" hit "Peggy Sue"--who went to high school with Holly and later married the drummer in his band, The Crickets--has been studying for her ham ticket for some time. She says participating in the W5B event sharpened her desire to get her license.

"Out of all the Buddy Holly events that I have attended in my life," she said afterward. "This event will always stand out in my memory."

As rock n' roll history has it, Holly

originally titled the song "Cindy Lou," but Crickets drummer Jerry Allison convinced the singer to change the tune's name to "Peggy Sue" just before the recording session. After Holly's death, Gerron toured with The Crickets when the band got back together. Holly's follow-up song "Peggy Sue Got Married" inspired a 1986 movie starring Kathleen Turner.

Over the years, Gerron has made appearances all over the country--including on "Oprah," VH1, the Oxygen Network, as well as network TV. She now works as a speaker, columnist, back-up singer and talk radio co-host (the show is called "Rave On"). Getting on the air during the W5B special event, however, turned out to be very "special" for her.

"You can do TV specials, and you can be interviewed by the very best DJs," she said, but there is nothing like the feeling of putting your finger down and transmitting your call sign and having somebody answer back."

The Buddy Holly special event --January 29 through February 2 in Holly's home town of Lubbock, Texas--marked the 45th anniversary of the entertainer's untimely death in a February 3, 1959, plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa. The mishap also claimed the lives of early rock n' rollers Ritchie Valens and JP "The Big Bopper" Richardson. Singer-songwriter David McLean later memorialized the sad occasion as "the day the music died" in his own hit, "American Pie."

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TENNESSEE NETS

Net Name	Freq.	UTC	Day
Tennessee CW Net	3635	0100	T-Su
Tennessee Slow CW Net	3682	0130	T-Su
Tennessee Early Morn Phone Net	3980	1145	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3980	1245	M-F
Tennessee Morning Phone Net	3980	1400	Sa-Su
Tennessee Evening Phone Net	3980	0030	T-Su

The Lubbock Amateur Contest Club's W5LCC provided the site for the special event station. Some area hams still remember Holly as a classmate at Lubbock High School. Bryan Edwards, W5KFT, who obtained the W5B call sign, reports W5B logged more than 1000 contacts.

The special event generated a lot of interest in talking to Peggy Sue, and she obliged as many as possible. A few shared personal recollections of Holly and his music.

"This is not planned conversation," Gerron said of Amateur Radio. "It's one person communicating with another. Is anybody out there? You bet they are! Keep rockin'!"

Other operators during the W5B special event included Doug Hutton, W5JUV, Terry Bajuk, KE5BL, Dennis Brush, WA5CBG, Joey Johnston, KC5MVZ, Eddie Petmecky, KC5OBX, Davis Plunkett, K5DLP, Rick Roy, KB5KYJ, and Tom Tucker, KB5UOP.--*thanks to Mike Gruber, W1MG, who provided information for this article .*

FCC KEEPS UP PRESSURE ON ALLEGED UNLICENSED 10-METER OPERATIONS

The FCC is continuing efforts to stem alleged unlicensed operation--primarily by long-haul truckers--on the 10-meter amateur band. Enforcement Bureau Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth, this month wrote FedEx Corporation CEO Frederick W. Smith enclosing a complaint asserting that some FedEx drivers have used "Amateur Radio transmitters to communicate on the 10-meter Amateur Radio band without a license," Hollingsworth said. The complaint focused on alleged operations in Tennessee. "Many truckers use CB radio, which does not require a license," Hollingsworth told Smith. "However, any person using a radio transmitter on Amateur Radio frequencies must possess both a station and operator license, for which an examination is required." He pointed out that some truckers have been known to use uncertificated dual-purpose CB radios that also can transmit on 10 meters. CB gear

must be FCC certificated, formerly known as type acceptance, but ham radiogear does not need to be. So-called dual-use ham/CB transceivers may not be sold or marketed under FCC rules. Two additional trucking firms this month were the target of FCC warning notices involving complaints of unlicensed operation on 10 meters. Hollingsworth wrote Carl Leonard Ross of CLR Transport in Saluda, North Carolina, citing allegations that a CLR Transport vehicle traveling on I-85 in North Carolina "was the source of unlicensed radio transmissions on the 10-meter Amateur Radio band on July 14, 2003." Cassidy's Express of Bristol, Pennsylvania, heard from the FCC regarding reports that one of its vehicles was the source of unlicensed radio transmissions while under way in Pennsylvania last October 9. Hollingsworth asked Smith to advise FedEx drivers that such operation of radio transmitting equipment without a license is a violation of federal law and could subject violators to stiff fines and even jail time as well as seizure of equipment. Pointing out the same penalties for violators, Hollingsworth asked the other two trucking firms to contact him to discuss the allegations. Earlier this year, the FCC sent warning notices to two shipping companies in the wake of reports to the Commission that some of the companies' vehicles may have been illegally transmitting on 10 meters. At least one of the companies, UPS, offered its full cooperation and promised to investigate.

IN BRIEF

ARRL Emergency Communications course registration: Registration opens Monday, March 1, 12:01 AM Eastern Time (0501 UTC), for the on-line Level I Emergency Communications course (EC-001). Registration remains open through the March 6-7 weekend or until all available seats have been filled--whichever comes first. Class begins Tuesday, March 16. Thanks to our grant sponsors--the Corporation for National and Community Service and the United

Technologies Corporation--the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be reimbursed after successful completion of the course. During this registration period, approximately 175 seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. Senior amateurs are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>>. For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, "<dmiller@arrl.org>; 860-594-0340.

Spacewalk ends early: Russian space officials this week cut short Expedition 8's spacewalk due to a cooling system problem in one of the Russian Orlan space suits. The "extravehicular activity" or EVA ended February 27 at 0112 UTC. Unlike previous spacewalks by ISS crews, there was not a crew member inside the station as the spacewalkers worked outside. Despite the early end to the EVA, Crew commander Mike Foale, KB5UAC, and Flight Engineer Sasha Kaleri, U8MIR, were able to complete nearly two-thirds of their scheduled work. Initial indications are that a kink in a tube in Kaleri's liquid cooling garment was preventing the flow of water through the suit. The spacewalk began February 26 at 2117 UTC and lasted 3 hours 55 minutes. During the EVA, the NA1SS ham gear aboard the ISS remained shut down for safety reasons.

Jail Term Enforces Temporary Radio Silence on Former Amateur (Feb 27, 2004) -- All's quiet on the Western Front--at least for the time being. Now that former amateur licensee Jack Gerritsen, ex-KG6IRO, of Bell, California, is back behind bars until March 24, Los Angeles-area Amateur Radio repeater owners and law enforcement agencies are breathing a short sigh of relief. Hams and police have long complained to the FCC that Gerritsen has been illegally transmitting on repeaters using the ham radio call sign he'd held for about a week in 2001 and has been jamming public safety transmissions.



CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are some of the contests and special events coming up in the next few weeks...

ARRL International DX Contest--Phone--0000Z Mar 6-2400Z Mar 7 (see Dec 2003 *QST*, p 96).

DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona"--RTTY/AMTOR/FACTOR/PSK31/ Clover, sponsored by Deutscher Amateur

Radio Club from 1100Z-1700Z Mar 2 (see Nov 2003 *QST*, p 102, or <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/>)

EU EME Contest--any mode--sponsored by DUBUS and REF, 0000Z Mar 6-2400Z Mar 7. Frequencies: 432 MHz, 2.3-5.7 GHz (144 MHz, 1.3 and 10 GHz on Mar 27-28). Categories: QRP, QRO, Pro--based on ERP and equipment, send e-mail for more information: info@dubus.de

RSGB Commonwealth Contest--CW--sponsored by the RSGB from 1000Z Mar 13-1000Z Mar 14. Open to British Commonwealth stations only, work stations once per band outside your own call area. HQ stations may be worked by

everyone and count as a separate call area. Frequencies: lower 30 kHz of 80-10 meters. For more information: <http://www.rsgbhfcc.org/>

Wisconsin QSO Party--Phone/CW--sponsored by the West Allis RAC from 1800Z Mar 14-0100Z Mar 15. Frequencies (MHz): CW--3.550, 3.705, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 10 meters; Phone--3.890, 7.230, 14.290, 21.350, 28.400; All modes-- 6/2 meters, UHF. No repeater QSOs. For more information: <http://www.warac.org/>

Oklahoma QSO Party--Phone/CW/Digital--sponsored by the Oklahoma DX Association (OKDXA) from 1400Z-0200Z Mar 13 and 1400Z-2000Z Mar 14. Frequencies (MHz): SSB--3.860, 7.260, 14.260, 21.360, 28.360; CW--3.530, 7.030, 14.030, 21.030, 28.030. For more information: <http://www.okdxa.org/>

North American RTTY Sprint - sponsored by *NCJ*, from 0000Z-0400Z Mar 14. Frequencies 80-20 meters. North American stations work everyone; others work NA stations only. For more information: <http://www.ncjweb.com/>

YL International Single Sideband System QSO Party--Phone, 0000Z Mar 13-2400Z Mar 14 (see Feb *QST*, p 104, or <http://www.qsl.net/yl-issb/>)

Russian DX Contest--CW/SSB--from 1200Z Mar 20-1200Z Mar 21. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: <http://www.rdxcc.org/>

Virginia QSO Party--Phone/CW--sponsored by the Sterling Park ARC 1800Z Mar 20-0200Z Mar 22. Frequencies (MHz): CW--1.805 and 50 kHz up, Phone--1.845, 3.860, 7.260, 14.270, 21.370, 28.370, Novice/Tech--28.370, VHF/UHF--50.125, 144.200, 146.58, 223.50, 446.00. No repeater or cross-mode QSOs. For more information: <http://www.qsl.net/sterling>

Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint--CW/PSK31--sponsored by New Jersey QRP Club, 0000Z-0400Z Mar 22. Frequencies: QRP CW and PSK31 frequencies on 80-10 meters, CW and PSK31 are considered separate bands. For more information:

The W4BS Elmer Shack

Please feel free to contact any of our ELMERS to help you enhance your amateur skills. Anyone wishing to be added to the Elmer list please contact Ned at ka4bll@arrl.net or 363-9607.

Codes:

1. Antennas
2. APRS
3. Contesting
4. CW Operating
5. Direction Finding (fox hunting)
6. DXing
7. Experimenting/Circuits/etc.
8. HF Phone
9. Packet
10. Repeater Operation
11. QRP
12. Satellite
13. RTTY
14. VHF
15. PSK31
16. Computer logging

K4TTA (Extra) Tom Richardson 386-6268
ka4tta@arrl.net (1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15)

KA4BLL (Extra) Ned Savage 363-9607
ka4bll@arrl.net (1, 5, 8, 14, MARS, ARES/RACES, net control, traffic handling, emergency service)

KB4LJV (Extra) James Butler 294-2540
jbutler@bigriver.net (2, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14)

KD4NOQ (Adv) David Campbell 388-6166
kd4noq@bellsouth.net (1,2,3,5,9,10,14, slow scan TV, ATV minor)

KU4AW (Extra) Ben Troughton 372-8031
bktrough@mem.quik.net (2,4, 8, 15)

N9ACQ (Extra) Bill Kuechler 368-0532
wkuechl1@midsouth.rr.com (1, 8, 13)

WA2IQC (Gen) Gary Blinckmann 794-5289
garyblin@midsouth.rr.com (1, 7, 10, 14)

WA4MJM (Extra) Bill Hancock 853-7192
billwa4mjm@aol.com (1, 2, 8, emergency communications, ARES,MARS)

K4DIT (Extra) Ken Gregg 853-7384
kgregg@c-a-c.com (4, 6, 8, 11, 15)

W4GMM (Extra) Ham Hilliard 372-2337
hamh@bellsouth.net (All categories)



<http://www.njqr.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html>

10-10 Mobile Contest--any mode--sponsored by 10-10 International, from 0000Z-2359Z Mar 20. Frequencies: 10 meters only. For more information: <http://www.ten-ten.org/>

CLARA and Family HF Contest--Phone/CW--sponsored by the Canadian Ladies ARA, from 1700Z Mar 20-1700Z Mar 21. Frequencies (MHz): CW--14.033, 21.033, 7.033, 3.688, Phone--28.300, 21.225, 14.120 14.285, 7.033, 7.200, 3.750, 3.900, work CLARA and YL stations once per band/mode. Crossmode contacts count as Phone for both stations. For more information: <http://www.qsl.net/clara/contest.html>

CQ WW SSB WPX Contest--SSB--sponsored by CQ Magazine, from 0000Z Mar 27- 2400Z Mar 28 (CW is May 29-30). Frequencies: 160-10 meters. For more information: <http://www.cqwp.com/>

Arlington Heights, IL: US Peace Corps ARC, KA9NLX. 1700Z Mar 1-2200Z Mar 7. 43rd Anniversary of founding of United States Peace Corps. 28.500 21.375 14.325 7.283. Certificate.

Various, England: Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, GB6OT. 0700Z Mar 5-2359Z Apr 1. 60th Anniversary of Op Thursday Burma 1944. 21.070 21.056 14.070 14.056. QSL. Info <http://www.rsars.org.uk/>

Weeki Wachee, FL: Spring Hill Amateur Radio Club, W4W. 1000Z Mar 5 and 2400Z Mar 7. Celebrating the 11th Annual Weeki Wachee Swamp Fest. 14.260 7.260 7.040. QSL. www.kf4ixu.com/

Chesapeake, VA: Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service, W4CAR. 1500Z-2100Z Mar 6. 142nd Anniversary, *Monitor-Merrimac* Battle of the Ironclads. 28.362 21.362 7.262 146.82. Certificate.

<http://www.qsl.net/cars>

Naples, FL: Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida, K4YHB. 1400Z Mar 6-2000Z Mar 7. Annual Spring Swamp Buggy Races. 12 m 17 m. Certificate. <http://www.araswf.org/>

Hermann, MO: Hermann Bearcat Amateur Radio Club, K0S. 1400Z Mar 9-2100Z Mar 10. Science class study of radio spectrum. 14.250 14.246 147.135. Certificate.

New Port Richey, FL: Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club, K4C. 1200Z Mar 18-2000Z Mar 28. The 82nd Annual Chasco Fiesta. 28.360 21.250 14.250 7.245. Certificate.

Princeton, NJ: Mercer County ARES/Central NJ American Red Cross, N2ARC. 2300Z Mar 19-2300Z Mar 21. March is Red Cross Month, celebrating ARES/ARC partnership. 28.445 14.255 7.240 3.952 2 m 220 MHz APRS. Certificate. users.tellurian.com/gjurrens/n2arc_special_event.htm

Macon, GA: Macon Amateur Radio Club, W4BKM. 1500Z-2200Z Mar 20. 22nd Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. 14.240 21.335 7.055 14.055. Certificate.

Brampton, ON, Canada: Peel/Mississauga Amateur Radio Clubs, VE3XR. 1300Z-1700Z Mar 20. HAM-EX Annual Hamfest. 14.240 7.240. QSL.

Virginia Beach, VA and Moss, Norway: Virginia Beach Amateur Radio Club, Inc and Mossegruppen av NRRL, W4UG and LA5M. 1300Z Mar 20-2200Z Mar 21. 113th anniversary of the Norwegian Lady. 14.278 14.040 7.280 7.040. Certificate.

Wellsboro, PA: Nessmuk Amateur Radio Association, W3BGK. 1500Z Mar 24-2100Z Mar 28. 200th anniversary of Tioga County. 14.240

7.240. Certificate. Contact jantonio@epix.net

Ebensburg, PA: Conemaugh Valley Amateur Radio Club, W3C. 1300Z Mar 26-0300Z Mar 27. Cambria County Bicentennial. 21.300 14.250 7.230 3.985. QSL. <http://www.cambriacobicentennial.com/>

Timonium, MD: Baltimore Amateur Radio Club, W3FT. 1300Z Mar 26-2000Z Mar 27. Celebrating the Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest. 14.265 7.265. Certificate.

Waco, TX: Lake Whitney Amateur Radio Society, WA5BU. 1600Z-2000Z Mar 27. Activating the Baylor University Ham Club Radio Station. 28.425 21.300 14.250 7.250. QSL.

Saginaw, MI: Saginaw Valley Amateur Radio Association Inc, K8DAC. 1200Z Apr 1-0200Z Apr 2. Ojibway Island DXpedition. 21.325 14.225 3.530. Certificate. SVARA Ojibway Island DXpedition.

Dillon Beach, CA: Friends and Amateur Radio Communications Enthusiasts, KF6NNM. 2342Z Apr 2-0742Z Apr 4. Inaugural Founders non-Field Day & Beach party. 28.450 14.250 7.250. QSL. <http://www.kf6nnm.org/>

Terre Haute, IN: Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc, W9U. 0000Z Apr 2-2359Z Apr 11. WVARA 70th year of ARRL affiliation. 28.470 21.370 14.270 7.270. Certificate. WVARA, PO Box 81, Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081. <http://www.w9uuu.org/>.

For more information on these and other contests and special events in March, please visit the ARRL contest page on the internet at: www.arrl.org/contests/months/mar.html

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