

# CARA COMMUNICATOR



Located at the Crossroads of Communications in East Central Ohio  
Vol. 8 Issue 9, W8VP, 146.25/85, Est. 1913, June-August 2009

## **FIELD DAY 2009, JUNE 27-28**

CARA will hold Field Day at The Grove Park in Bloomfield, same as last year. The park is located behind the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on SR 209 just east of the junction with SR 83. This year we will be running class 4A, that is four stations will be on the air at the same time. This will give us the ability to have more operations on the air, which was a shortfall at last year's Field Day event.

New functions this year will some PSK31 digital operations and the ability to operate on 75 SSB and 80 Meters CW at the same time during the night hours. Last year we added the ability to operate on 40 meter SSB and CW at the same time and computer logging. Both were quite successful and will be used again this year.

This year we hope to have a solid plan in place to be able to work the amateur radio satellite system for extra operational bonus. We also will be operating a QRP CW station on solar cells for extra operational bonus points as well as have a GOTA station available for new operators and youngsters. Lots of additional bonus points are available, and plans are in place to obtain them.

Large equipment will be taken to the Bloomfield site Friday evening, around 7 PM, in preparation for Saturday morning's setup. Saturday morning setup will begin promptly at 9 AM, and we need a large setup crew. So if you can be available, please help set up. Plus this year we will start teardown early (11 AM) as we must be off the site by 1 PM, so your help Sunday morning would be appreciated.

The on-air basic plan on Saturday during daylight hours is to have stations operating on 20 meter SSB, 40 Meter SSB, 40 Meter CW and 75 Meter SSB. During the nighttime hours we plan to have operations on 40 Meter CW, 40 Meter SSB, 80 Meter CW and 75 Meter SSB. On Sunday during daylight hours the plan is to have stations operating on 20 Meter SSB or PSK31, 40 Meter SSB or PSK31, 40 Meter CW and 75 meter SSB. Of course, operations will vary depending on operators and band conditions or activity.

Major efforts are going into the planning stage of this year's event in an attempt to provide all the technical capabilities so that the opportunity for everyone to do his or her own thing will be available. Being able to run two stations on 40 meters and two stations on 75/80 meters during the nighttime hours, we should be able to make a nice high score or just have fun. We have added some interesting abilities this year, so it all depends on what each operator would like to do.

Speaking of operators, last year we had an abundance of people wanting to operate during specific time slots or specific bands, and no one at other times to keep all of the stations on the air. So in an effort to support everyone's desires, please contact Dick Wayt and provide him with your particular time slot and operational requests. We need lots of operators, and scheduling operators is one of our most nagging problems. So please give us your input. Dick's E-mail address is [trwayt@roadrunner.com](mailto:trwayt@roadrunner.com). Dick will do his best to provide everyone with his/her desires. No matter what your interests for Field Day are, please plan to attend just for the enjoyment of the operation. An old ham radio saying is: JUST HAVE FUN ON RADIO. So let's do it. As always our main objective is to just have a great time.

Oh yes, it goes without saying, but eating is one of our major pastimes, so bring what food you want. Jay KA8LFI will have his mobile cooker available for our use.

Regards, Sonny W8FHF, President CARA

## **CARA TO HOST MCC MEETING**

CARA will host the Multi-County Coalition meeting on Sunday, July 26 in the new pavilion, now known as # 4 or gray pavilion, located near the covered bridge in the Cambridge City Park.

CARA will provide the hot dogs, hamburgers, condiments, buns, place settings, iced bottled water. Attendees are requested to bring their family, and a covered dish. A program is being considered at this time. If we do have a "fox hunt" announcements will be made ahead of time.

## 2009 ELECTED OFFICERS

**President:** Sonny Alfman, W8FHF

**Vice President:** Bruce Homer, N8JMK

**Secretary:** Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS

**Treasurer:** Jamie Boyd, KD8GKK

**Newsletter Editor:** Lyn Alfman, N8IMW

**PIO:** Lyn Alfman, N8IMW

**Activities Chair:** Dick Wayt, WD8SDH

**Program Chair:** Josh Boyd, N8XAY

**Trustees:** Sonny Alfman, W8FHF; Alan Day, K8AL; and Bob Gray, KE8NI

**MCC Representative:** Lyn Alfman, N8IMW; and Bruce Homer

## 2009 APPOINTED POSITIONS

**Webmaster:** Dave Dilbeck, W8ACE

**Historian:** Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS

**District 9 DEC:** Sonny Alfman, W8FHF

**Guernsey CO. EC** Mark Jenei, KC8SBB

**Guernsey CO AECs:** Bruce Homer, N8JMK; and Dick Wayt, WD8SHD

### LOCAL WEBSITES

CAMBRIDGE ARA  
[www.w8vp.org](http://www.w8vp.org)

ZANESVILLE ARC  
<http://zarc.eqth.info>

NEWARK AR A  
<http://nara.eqth.info>

COSHOCTON ARA  
[www.w8cca.org](http://www.w8cca.org)

TUSCO ARC  
[www.tuscoarc.org](http://www.tuscoarc.org)

MUSKINGUM VALLEY HAM RC  
[www.n8hr.bravehost.com](http://www.n8hr.bravehost.com)

Cambridge Amateur Radio Association,  
P. O. Box 1804,  
Cambridge, OH 43725  
[www.w8vp.org](http://www.w8vp.org)

w8vp@hotmail.com

## SSB TRAFFIC NET FREQUENCIES

OH 3.9725 MHz – 1030, 1615, 1830 Local Time

WPA 3.983 MHz – 1815 Local Time

WV 3.865 MHz – 1815 Local Time

## LOCAL NETS

**Sunday** 9 PM 147.045 MHz CCARA

**Monday** 8 PM 146.730 MHz TUSCO  
9 PM 145.230 MHz CCARA.

**Tuesday** 8 PM 146.850 MHz CARA  
8:15 PM 146.850 MHz CARA  
9 PM 146.880 MHz NARA

**Wednesday** 9 PM 146.610 MHz ZARC

**Thursday** 9 PM 51.135 MHz ZARC  
9 PM 145.230 MHz CCARA

**Friday** 9 PM 28.450 MHz CCARA

**Saturday** 8 PM 146.820 MHz PARC  
9 PM 146.610 MHz MCC

## MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS

### JUNE:

2-Russ Ellis, N8MWK;  
21-Bob Gray, KE8NI.

### JULY:

2-Betty Shoemaker, KC8MFL;  
7-Fred Barton, KB8MGI;  
20-Dave Thompson, KC8OQW;  
21-Mary Jane Rhodes-Ellis, KD8EIR.

### AUGUST:

9-Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS;  
12- Terry Simmons, KA8OKF;  
16-Bruce Homer, N8JMK.

## MEMBERS' ANNIVERSARIES

### JULY:

7- Jerry Porter, KB8PYL & XYL;  
20- Fred, KB8MGI, & Evelyn, KA8NZS, Barton;  
22-Dick, WD8SDH, & Terri Wayt;  
Terry, KA8OKF & Kandice Simmons.

### AUGUST:

6-Dave, KC8OQW, & Tara Thompson;  
15- Harold Webster, W5HZU, & XYL;  
21- Gerry Shaffer, KD8HWB, & XYL.

## TRIVIA QUESTION

What information is on the outer scale of the standard smith chart?

- A. Reflection Coefficient;
- B. Degree-Centigrade/Fahrenheit; C. Wavelength/Degrees; or D. Impedance/VSWR

## **HAMFESTS**

**Aug 23--The Cambridge ARA** will host a Hamfest & Computer Show at the Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, 7033 Glenn Highway, Cambridge, OH.

Setup begins at 6:30 AM and the doors open are open from 8 AM to 1 PM to the public. Table rental is \$10. Free tailgating will be available with \$5 paid admission. There will be a radio grand prize and door prizes. Fresh homemade food will be available on the premises.

An ARRL VE Session will be held at 11 AM. Walk-ins are welcome. Talk-in will be on 146.850 with a PL of 91.5Hz. For reservations or more information contact Russ Ellis, N8MWK, or Mary Jane Rhodes-Ellis, KD8EIR by phone at (740) 439-6610 or (740) 767-2226. E-mail [n8mwk@arrl.net](mailto:n8mwk@arrl.net) or [radicalrhodes@yahoo.com](mailto:radicalrhodes@yahoo.com).

**June 6--Fulton County ARC Hamfest and Tailgate Party;** Talk-In: 147.195/147.795; Roth Family Park, 101 Hill Avenue, Tedrow, OH.

**June 20--** Milford ARC Hamfest; Talk-In: 147.345+ (no tone); Eastside Christian Church, 5874 Montclair Blvd., Milford, OH.

**July 18--** Northern Ohio ARS NOARSFEST; Talk-In: 146.70- (open repeater); Lorain County Community College (Spitzer Conference Center), 1005 North Abbe Road, Elyria, OH

**July 19--** Van Wert ARC Hamfest; Talk-In: 146.250 / 146.850; Van Wert County Fairgrounds, 1055 S. Washington St. (Route 127 South), Van Wert, OH.

**July 26--** Portage ARC Hamfair '09; Talk-In: 144.790/145.390; Portage County Fairgrounds, 4215 Fairgrounds Road, Randolph, OH.

**Aug 1--** Voice of Aladdin ARC Hamfest; Talk-In: 147.24; Aladdin Shrine Center, 3850 Stelzer Road, Columbus, OH.

**Aug. 16--** Warren ARA Hamfest; Talk-In: 146.970; Trumbull County Fairgrounds, 899 Everett Hull Road, Cortland, OH.

**Aug 22--** Portsmouth ARC Hamfest; Talk-In: 145.39 (PL 136.5); Nile Township Community Building, 12215 Route 52, Friendship, OH.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **RELAY FOR LIFE SPECIAL EVENT STATION**

**June 20--**CARA will operate a "Relay For Life" Special Event Station, K8R, from 9AM to 4 PM near the Meadowbrook High School Track. For more information contact Mary Jane Rhodes-Ellis, KD8EIR, at [radicalrhodes@yahoo.com](mailto:radicalrhodes@yahoo.com).

**Jul 1-Jul 5, 1300Z-0359Z,** 13 East Coast States, US. Original 13 Colonies Group, K2A TO K2M. 13 Original Colonies Special Event. 14.213 21.313 7.213 3.613. Certificate. Ken Villone, KU2US, PO Box 185, Conesus, NY 14435. *Certificate available for contacting all 13 colonies.* [www.QRZ.com/KU2US](http://www.QRZ.com/KU2US)

**Jul 17-Jul 26,** NY & OH. Several stations Celebrating the Apollo 11 moon landing 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Jul 20-Jul 31, 1700Z-0200Z,** Warren, OH. Warren Amateur Radio Association, W8P. 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Packard Car Show and the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Packard Museum. 14.325 7.235 146.970. Certificate. WARA, PO Box 809, Warren, OH 44483. [kc8lrh@hotmail.com](mailto:kc8lrh@hotmail.com) or [www.w8vtd.org](http://www.w8vtd.org)

**Aug 13-Aug 17, 0000Z-0000Z,** Denver, NY. Sponsored by KC8SKK, N2Y. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 1969 Woodstock Music Festival. 1.865 MHz thru 70 cm. QSL. Brian S. Floutz, 6140 SHuron River Dr, South Rockwood, MI 48179-9509. [floutz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:floutz@sbcglobal.net)

## **LOCAL NEWS**

### **SWING INTO SPRING**

Several CARA/Citizens Corp members manned the Citizens' Corp booth at the Swing Into Spring Show at the Pritchard-Laughlin Civic Center on March 6, 7, and 8. CARA members involved were: Mark Jenei, KC8SBB; Carol Emerson, KD8KGGH; Sonny Alfman, W8FHF; Lyn Alfman, N8IMW; Bruce Homer, N8JMK; and Betty Shoemaker, KC8MFL.

### **SIREN TESTING EXERCISE**

On March 25 at 10 AM, the local ARES® net was called up, and CARA members checked in to report whether or not their local tornado siren was heard at 9:50 AM. This information was then forwarded to the proper Emergency Management Agency.

## **SKYWARN® TRAINING**

Twelve licensed hams, ten of which are CARA members, attended the SKYWARN training session on April 2 at the Guernsey County EMA office's Emergency Operations Center.

## **GUERNSEY-MUSKINGUM ANNUAL MEETING**



L to R: Bruce Homer, N8JMK, Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, and Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, who worked the ARES® booth; Mark Jenei, KC8SBB, and Carol Emerson, KD8KGH, who worked the Citizens Corp (CERT) booth; and Bill Dickson, WB8TRK, who worked the New Concord Volunteer Fire Department's EMT booth.

CARA members manned booths at the Guernsey-Muskingum annual meeting held on April 4 in New Concord. CARA sponsored the ARES® booth, which distributed information on amateur radio, preparedness, and the local radio clubs and ARES® organizations. CARA donated a weather radio as a raffle prize for cooperative members.

## **TECHNICAL SEMINAR BREAKFAST**

Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, Bruce Homer, N8JMK, and John Demuth, K8CQA fielded technical questions from attendees at a Technical Seminar breakfast meeting sponsored by the TUSCO ARC on April 18 in Gnadenhutten.

## **DEERASSIC CLASSIC**

Volunteers are needed to park vehicles for the Deerassic Classic on August 7 and 8 from 7 AM to midnight. The club gets \$40 for every 8-hr. shift. This is our major fundraiser of the year.

## **MCC MEETING MINUTES**

The Spring MCC meeting took place on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 2 PM in the shelter house at Tuscora Park in New Philadelphia. Founder and Chair Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, led the attendees

in the Pledge of Allegiance after a round of introductions. After which everyone was invited to partake of the cold cut sandwiches, potato salad, chips, vegetables and dip, cake, cookies, donuts, and assorted beverages provided by the TUSCO ARC.

After the meal, Chair Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, read the November 28 meeting minutes which was hosted by the Zanesville ARC.

Each club/county was given the opportunity to share what activities and accomplishments their organization had over the last four months, and what activities and events they have planned for the next four months.

TUSCO President Gary Green, K8WFN, passed out pictures and discussed the new TUSCO ARC emergency van, ATV setup, and the three new Dell Laptop computers. Green also noted that a D-Star repeater will be going into place soon, and the frequencies are 449-8250 Input/444-8250 Output. Green also gave details on the activities for Kids Day on June 20-21 as well as Field Day, both will be held in Gnadenhutten.

Bud Russell, K8GBH, reported on the Eastern Ohio Amateur Wireless Association (EOAWA) (Belmont County) activities such as SKYWARN and NIMS compliant courses required by the EMA. Bud gave a report on an EMA exercise held last June in Martin's Ferry using ATV from their emergency van to the EOC.

Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, reported on the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association's many activities past and future. CARA will host the next MCC meeting as a cookout/covered dish event at the Cambridge City Park on Sunday, July 26 at 2 PM. CARA will supply the hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, and condiments. Attendees are requested to bring a covered dish to share.

Lyn and Sonny Alfman gave the reports for the Zanesville Amateur Radio Club, the Muskingum Valley Radio Club, and the new Muskingum County ARES® group—MCARES.

Under Old Business, the nomination and election of the Multi-County Coalition of East Central Radio Operators' Chairperson took place at the meeting. Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, was unanimously re-elected as Chair for 2009.

Under New Business, Gary Green suggested the MCC members could build an antenna such as 6

meters. Ben Pfeiffer requested that Sonny Alfman, and John Demuth , K8CQA, do a demonstration on antenna building.

It was noted that the next TUSCO meeting on April 16 would be held at the EMA and would have a demonstration of D-Star. The meeting was adjourned, and a social hour ensued.

## **ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEANUP**



The first Adopt-A-Highway cleanup for 2009 was held on Sunday, April 26. The cleanup crew consisted of from left to right: Fred Barton, KB8MGI; Al Day, K8AL; Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS; Roger Davis, AB8JH; Dick Wayt, WD8SDH; Marli Glasgow (Wayt's granddaughter); Alexis Alfman; Lyn Alfman, N8IMW; Gerry Shaffer, KD8HWB; Sonny Alfman, W8FHF; and Dick Clifton, KG8CZ.

## **STATE NEWS**

### **ARES® CONFERENCE**



Attendees, left to right, front row: Fred Barton, KB8MGI; Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS; Lyn Alfman, N8IMW. Back row: Dick Wayt, WD8SDH, Guernsey Co. AEC; Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, District 9 EC; Bruce Homer, N8JMK, Guernsey Co. AEC.

The Ohio ARES® Conference, held on March 28 at the State Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg, OH, was attended by approximately 90 ARES members from all across the state.

ARRL Ohio SEC Jack Sovik, KB8WPZ, conference moderator, introduced OH Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, and the Great Lakes Division Vice-Director Gary Johnson, KI4LA, for some opening remarks.

The OSSBN Assistant Net Manager Don Zickefoose, WB8SIQ, discussed the operation of the net, which meets three times a day and handles formal traffic across the state for the local nets, and suggested ways in which ARES members could and should make use of the net.

The reports from the District ECs showed the disparity in members and resources between the metropolitan centers and the rural areas of the state. Some counties do not have a club or an EC, yet alone have D-Star or other digital systems available; however, all areas have the need to feed information into the system in time of emergency by whatever means available.

Following the pizza lunch and social hour, and Matt Welch, KBILCS, provided an APRS demonstration.

Ohio Section Traffic Manager John Tipka, W8UL, presented a Power Point presentation on Digital Communications—Where Are We Headed? Interoperability and duplication to achieve dependability are still the key points. The ultimate desire is WinLink 2000 and the use of AirMail, which is part of that program. From a realistic viewpoint about the cost and availability of equipment, PACTOR 1, 2, 3, and RTTY were also discussed.

## **DAYTON HAMVENTION**



The Dayton Hamvention has something for everyone, hams and non-hams. The flea market had acres of things to search for your treasures.

Of course, the vendors were quite numerous, and they were selling everything from weather stations, ham gear, shirts, hats, badges, software packages, food, and all kind of gadgets.

There were displays from the numerous ham related organizations and magazines to served agencies.



Great Lakes Division Vice Director Gary Johnston, KI4LA and Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, hard at work soliciting members to sign prepared letters to send to congress concerning Bill H.R. 2160.

Of course, my favorites are the forums. There are so many that we wanted to see that sometimes Sonny went to one while took in another and compared notes later.

Of course there were the off-site events starting on Wednesday evening through Saturday evening.



ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager, Allen Pitts, WIAGP, discusses the PIO function for Field Day.

Friday's forums included APRS, D-Star, Antennas, Public Relations, foxhunting, county hunting, restoring Drake equipment,



technical question/answer session, ham radio and the law, a teacher's workshop, kit building, engineering manuals, classroom antics for ham elmers and instructors, techniques of the best operators, QRP. ARRL Field Day, the joy of QSL cards, special events, and awards, alternative energy sources, software defined radio, and TAPR.



Space Explorer, Richard Garriott, W5KWQ, shown autographing photos. He also had a forum where he discussed why we went into space and his impressions.



The gentleman in the light blue shirt, seated in the middle, is his father Owen Garriott, W5LFL, first ham in space.

Saturday's forums consisted of contesting, space explorer Richard Garriott, youth in amateur radio, DX, SATERN, ARRL members, Newline town meeting, FCC, ATV, Lightning protection, Heil Sound—Ham station audio, RTTY, ARRL getting started in digital contesting, ARES, Collins, VHF/UHF/Microwave, AMSAT, SSTV, and MARS.

On Sunday the forums consisted of the Red Cross, When All Else Fails (SC is Ready), QCWA, Volunteer Emergency Communicators: Are We Still Needed?, YLRL, and Bicycle Mobile.

We enjoyed the trip and saw some old friends, ham and non-ham. We wore ourselves out in the flea markets and the vendor arenas. But most of all we enjoyed the forums the best. Now, if we could only clone ourselves, then we could enjoy more of the forums. We are looking forward to next year, and hope that you will place a trip to the Dayton Hamvention as a must next year.

--Lyn Alfman, N8IMW

## ***DIVISION NEWS***

The Great Lakes Division Conference will be held on Saturday, September 12, at Findlay, OH.

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **VANITY CALL FEES TO GO UP?**

On May 14, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (NPRM) seeking to raise fees for Amateur Radio vanity call signs to \$13.40. Instructions on how to comment on this NPRM are available on the FCC Web site.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal three years ago.

Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

License application, renewal information, and links to the required forms are available on the ARRL Amateur Application Filing FAQ Web page or on the FCC's forms page.

From May 19, 2009, ARRL Bulletin 22

### **GOOGLE & MORSE CODE**

Internet search engine Google reconfigured their home page using Morse code to spell out Google on April 27 to honor the 218th birthday of Morse code creator Samuel F. B. Morse. Morse, conceived the basic idea of an electromagnetic telegraph in 1832.

From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 17  
May 1, 2009

## **RADIO SCOUTING EXPLORED**

The Scout Radio Outpost at the ARRL National Convention at the Dayton Hamvention was well attended. According to Brian Walker, K9BKW, Scout Leaders will again be reaching out to ham radio operators to encourage them to provide Amateur Radio opportunities to Boy Scouts back in their home towns. Walker and a team of Scout Leaders hosted the Outpost, answering questions and providing amateurs with resources about Radio Scouting.

At the Outpost, amateurs learned how to teach the Radio merit badge and to help their local Scouts participate in Scouting's largest annual event, the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) Each October, more than half a million Scouts around the world talk to each other via Amateur Radio. Hams were given tips on how they can let Scouts in their hometowns participate in this exciting on-the-air event.



The ARRL Muskingum County EC Matthew Murphy, KC8BEW, of BSA's Muskingum Valley Council, said that hams visiting the Outpost learned about a new program being developed for the 100th birthday of the Boy Scouts of America in 2010. "Scout Camps on the Air (SCOTA) promises to be a fun way for hams to help encourage Amateur Radio Scouting events," said Murphy, who is coordinating the SCOTA program <<http://kc8bew.net/scota.html>>.

From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 19,  
May 15, 2009

## **TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

The ARRL Technical Information Service is staffed by members of the ARRL Lab and is there to provide technical assistance at no cost to ARRL members. ARRL TCs and Technical Specialists (TS) in the field and at ARRL Headquarters can answer your questions on topics ranging from A (ampere) to Z (impedance) -- and

just about anything in between. Our technical staff will help you over the phone, refer you to a volunteer ARRL TS in your area or send you the needed information from a growing collection of information packages. For really difficult questions, an ARRL Lab Engineer will research the League's technical library and send you an answer by postal or electronic mail.

The TIS, as one of the many services it offers, maintains a database of more than 2000 suppliers that provide goods and services to radio amateurs. These include manufacturers, publications, clubs and museums, dealers, just to name a few. The TIS also keeps what they call an "expanding list" of technical pages that include articles from QST, QEX and The ARRL Handbook, as well as original articles on a variety of subjects including theory, tutorials and projects. Many pages also contain additional sources for materials and information and Web links of particular interest.

The TIS also keeps a list of every QST Product Review published since 1970. ARRL members can also download any QST Product review published after 1980. If you need a quick summary of any HF transceiver featured in a QST Product Review, you can also find it on the TIS Web site.

The TIS maintains the ARRL Periodicals Archive and Search. This feature provides ARRL members with PDF copies of all QST articles from December 1915 through December 2005, enabling members to view and print their favorite article, project and more. The ARRL Periodicals Archive and Search lists every article for QST from 1915 to the present, QEX from 1981 to the present, Ham Radio Magazine from 1968 to 1990 and NCJ from 1973 to the present (please note that beginning in 1998, each issue of QEX covers two months).

For those needing a higher quality reprint, a reprint from QEX or NCJ, or for hams who are not members of the ARRL, the TIS also provides photocopies of articles for a nominal fee. You can reach the TIS via e-mail <mailto:tis@arrl.org> or by phone at 860-594-0214.

The TIS is just one of the many benefits available to ARRL members. To learn about all the benefits of ARRL membership, including QST, e-mail forwarding service, the outgoing QSL service and more, please visit the ARRL Membership Web page.

From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 16,  
April 24, 2009

### **ARRL MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTERS, BULLETINS, AND NOTIFICATIONS**

Did you know the ARRL offers more newsletters than just The ARRL Letter? One of the many ARRL membership benefits includes other newsletters, such as the ARRL Contest Update (a bi-weekly contest newsletter), the ARES E-Letter (sent monthly, containing public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Club News, the ARRL Instructor/Teacher E-Letter and the VE Newsletter.

You can elect to receive news and information from your Division Director and Section Manager (keep in mind that not all Divisions/Sections send notices), as well as WIAW bulletins that relate to DX, propagation, satellites, and Keplerian reports. The ARRL also offers a free notification service that lets them know when their membership and license are due to expire.

Sign up for these newsletters, bulletins and notifications on the Member Data page of the ARRL Web site.

From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 16,  
April 24, 2009

### **FCC RESUMES ENFORCEMENT**

On May 13, the FCC posted the first list of enforcement actions since Laura Smith took over as FCC Special Counsel. The 11 RFI-related letters to energy providers were sent between February 18 and April 1, 2009, and the 7 warning letters to individuals were sent between February 18 and March 30, 2009.

From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 19,  
May 15, 2009

### **OBAMA NOMINATES NEW FCC COMMISSIONER**

On April 29, President Obama announced his intention to nominate Mignon L. Clyburn of South Carolina as FCC Commissioner. If her nomination is approved by Congress, Clyburn will fill the seat of Democrat Jonathan Adelstein. Adelstein.

From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 17,  
May 1, 2009

## **LEGISLATION INTRODUCED TO INVENTORY RADIO SPECTRUM**

Two US Senators -- Democrat John Kerry of Massachusetts and Republican Olympia Snowe of Maine -- have introduced a bill in the Senate that would mandate an inventory of radio spectrum bands managed by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The inventory would include those frequencies between 300 MHz-3.5 GHz managed by the two agencies.

The proposed legislation, known as the "Radio Spectrum Inventory Act" states that the NTIA and the FCC would be required to inventory the spectrum no later than 180 days after the bill becomes law; after the initial survey, follow-ups would be required every two years. Both agencies would need to prepare a report listing the licenses or government user assigned in the band, the total spectrum allocation, by band, of each licensee or government user (in percentage terms and in sum) and the number of intentional radiators and end-user intentional radiators that have been deployed in the band with each license or government user. Additionally, if the information is applicable, the report would be required to show the type of intentional radiators operating in the band, the type of unlicensed intentional radiators authorized to operate in the band, contour maps that illustrate signal coverage and strength and the approximate geo-location of base stations or fixed transmitters. The report would then be sent to the Senate's Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation and to the House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The bill also mandates that both agencies create a centralized portal or Web site that lists each agency's band inventories. This information would then be made available to the public via an Internet-accessible Web site. Both agencies would also be required to make all necessary efforts to maintain and update the inventory information "in near real-time fashion and whenever there is a transfer or auction of licenses or change in allocation or assignment." The bill includes an exemption for licensees or users if they can demonstrate that disclosure would be harmful to national security.

"Our public airwaves belong to the American

people, and we need to make certain we are putting them to good use in the best interests of those citizens," Senator Kerry said. "Last year's 700 MHz auction resulted in \$20 billion for the treasury and will create greater opportunity and choice for consumers and businesses that need broadband service. We also took a great step forward when the FCC established a way for unlicensed devices to operate in white spaces. These two initiatives are evidence of how valuable spectrum is and how it serves as fertile grounds for innovation. We need to make sure we're making as much of it available to innovators and consumers as possible."

"Used by millions of consumers and countless businesses on a daily basis, wireless technology is a proud part of America's innovative history and a key to its economic future," Senator Snowe said. "But as radio spectrum is already a scarce yet valuable resource in many areas, we must ensure that this public good is allocated and used efficiently for the needs of the American people. This legislation is the first step to addressing comprehensive spectrum reform and will work to enhance advanced communications services to keep people on-line and in touch."

ARRL Technical Relations Manager Brennan Price, N4QX, said that the bill is in its infancy and that there is no corresponding legislation in the House of Representatives: "The text of the proposed legislation neither exempts Amateur Radio nor considers the frequency-agile and unfixed nature of most Amateur Radio operations. This bill merits watching and presents amateurs an opportunity to educate their Senators about the nature of our stations and our Service." The bill is co-sponsored by Senators Bill Nelson, a Florida Democrat, and Roger Wicker, a Mississippi Republican.

From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 12,  
March 27, 2009

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS ARRL DXCC APPROVES 7Z1CQ**

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that the current 7Z1CQ operation in Saudi Arabia has been approved for DXCC credit. "If you had cards that were recently rejected for this operation, please send an [e-mail](#) to the ARRL DXCC Desk and you will be placed on the list for update," Moore said.

From ARRL Web site, May 28, 2009.

## SCIENTISTS PREDICT SOLAR CYCLE 24 TO PEAK IN 2013

An international panel of experts led by NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) predicted that Solar Cycle 24 will peak in May 2013 with 90 sunspots per day on average. If the prediction proves true, Solar Cycle 24 will be the weakest cycle since Solar Cycle 16, which peaked with 78 daily sunspots in 1928, and ninth weakest since the 1750s, when numbered cycles began.

The panel predicted that the lowest sunspot number between cycles – the solar minimum -- occurred in December 2008, marking the end of Solar Cycle 23 and the start of Solar Cycle 24. If December's prediction holds up at 12 years and seven months Solar Cycle 23 will be the longest since 1823 and the third longest since 1755. Solar cycles span 11 years on average, from minimum to minimum.

An unusually long, deep lull in sunspots led the panel to revise its 2007 prediction that the next cycle of solar storms would start in March 2008 and peak in late 2011 or mid-2012. The persistence of a quiet sun also led the panel to a consensus that Solar Cycle 24 will be what they called "moderately weak."

From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 19,  
May 15, 2009

## TRADING POST CLUB CLOTHING

Carolyn Poland, KA8UJA of Newcomerstown, who owns Bluebird Embroidery, does custom embroidered items such as hats, shirts, jackets, towels, fleece blankets as well as imprinting of t-shirts and hats and other crafts.

Directions from Newcomerstown –Go to River Street (toward the high school), go across the bridge, go left, go the top of the hill. It is the first house on the right of the first road to the right [bluebirdembroidery@hughes.net](mailto:bluebirdembroidery@hughes.net).

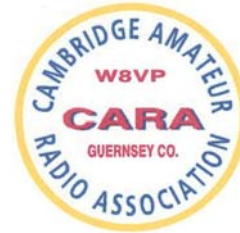
## BUY, SELL, OR TRADE

If you have an item that you would like to purchase, sell, or trade, feel free to send it to me to be included in the next newsletter. (Newsletter publication dates are March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1).



BE RADIO ACTIVE!

## CARA'S CLUB PATCH



Contact Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, to buy a CARA patch which can be sewn on clothing or a hat. The cost is \$2.50 each.

## EMERGENCY ANTENNAS



Josh Boyd shows a foldable J-Pole antenna he made for use in emergency situations.

At CARA's April meeting, Josh Boyd, N8XAY, presented a program on emergency portable antennas that he had built: a J-pole and an HF antenna with accessories that fit into a small tub.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Hopefully it won't be this cold when we have our Special Event station, K8R, Relay for Life on June 20 at the Meadowbrook High School track or for Field Day on June 27 and 28 at The Grove Park in Bloomfield. De Lyn Alfman, N8IMW

