

The Official (and only)
Newsletter Of The Steel
City Amateur Radio Club

All the (Amateur) news
that's fit to print

Inside this issue:
(Click on an article
to read it.)

DX News & Views	2
Local News/Club Stuff	3
July 2008 Minutes	4
ARRL WPA News	5
FCC/ARRL News	6
E-Bay Report	7
Monthly Website	8
50MHz Beacon News	9
FD GenSet Update	10
An Oldie But Goodie	11
W3SVJ's Goodies	12
Swap 'n Shop	16
Cool Pgh 250 Facts	18
Propagation Report	19
August Calendar	22
Septemeber Calendar	23
BCARA SwapFest	24
ARES/RACES Form	27

The Steel City Amateur Radio Club:

President: Michael Sapp,
WA3TTS (412) 364-2740

VP: Madison McKee, W3MAC
(412) 279-8756

Treasurer: Walt Adkins,
KA3YNO (412) 276-0825

Recording Secretary:
Joe Mielnicki, WA3FWA
(412) 922-6340

Corresponding Secretary:
Sue Rakiecz, KA3JKS
(412) 243-3061

License Trustee:
Karl Pastorak, WA3VXJ
(412) 429-8055

DON'T FORGET OUR NEXT MEETING:
TUESDAY AUGUST 19 @ 8:00PM.
CU AT THE CLUBHOUSE.



KiloWatt Harmonics

Check us out on the web: www.w3kwh.com

August, 2008

Court To FCC: Reimburse ARRL

The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has ordered that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) reimburse ARRL for the docketing fee and the cost of reproducing copies of briefs and appendices in the ARRL's successful challenge of the FCC's broadband over power line (BPL) rules <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/04/25/10064/>.

The Order, issued on July 9 following review of an opposition from the FCC and a reply from the ARRL, awarded the ARRL's full claim of \$6,096.18 http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/H_T_M_L/_p_l_c/_appealCostAwardOrder2008jul09.pdf. Commenting on the Order, ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, observed: "While this is just a small fraction of the cost of our judicial appeal, the Order is significant because the Court did not buy the FCC's arguments that the ARRL had only achieved 'partial success' in its appeal and that our claim of costs was excessive."

Sumner continued: "In addition, the FCC falsely claimed that the ARRL 'was unsuccessful in persuading the Court to vacate the rules it challenged.' In fact, the ARRL never sought to do so since the BPL rules adopted by the FCC, inadequate as they are, were still better than nothing. The award of these fees affirms that, contrary to the 'spin' the FCC has tried to put on the Court's remand, the ARRL substantially prevailed in its appeal."

On July 9, ARRL officials -- President Joel Harrison, W5ZN; Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ,

and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD -- met with members of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology to discuss the recent US Court of Appeals decision regarding broadband over power lines (BPL) http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_document=6520033586. In that case, the Court agreed with the ARRL on two major points and remanded the rules to the Commission.

According to Imlay, the meeting was convened to discuss "a possible regulatory approach" to BPL with the FCC. Suggestions put forth by ARRL "would address the needs and concerns of Amateur Radio operators in avoiding harmful interference from [BPL systems] while imposing the minimum necessary regulatory obligations on BPL deployments."

The ARRL understands, Imlay said, that "there are at this point rules that could be adopted which would, at once, (1) protect Amateur Radio communications from predictable harmful interference from BPL; and (2) permit broadband over power line systems to operate in the 3 to 80 MHz range without significant constraint and without substantial redesign or retroactive build outs."



Hilberling PT-8000 pulled from production!

See page 13 for details.

DX News & Views

Info courtesy of the ARRL DX Bulletin.
Thanks to ARRL for their permission to reprint

- ♦ **IRAQ, YI.** Buzz, NI5DX, reports that Kitch, WD6V, who has been active as YI9WV, has put some 4000 contacts in the log since mid-April. Most of his contacts have been on 40 and 30 meters CW, but he has also been on 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters. Kitch has also been active on PSK31 on 20 meters and is expected to try 40 meters. QSL YI9WV via NI5DX, by the Bureau or direct with SASE and 1 USD or 1 IRC.
- ♦ **KENYA, 5Z4.** Antonio, IK8VRH, will be active as 5Z4/IK8VRH from Malindi during the month of August. Operations will be from the Coast Province North Group (AF-040) from August 15 to 17 and the Coast Province South Group (AF-067) from August 20 to 22. Enrico, 5Z4ES, will be with him. Activity will be on 40, 20 and 17 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY.
- ♦ **TONGA, A3.** Paul, A35RK, is now QRV on the digital modes. Look for him on 20 and 17 meters, as time permits.
- ♦ **APPROVED FOR DXCC:** 5X4X 2008 operation.
- ♦ **ASCENSION ISLAND, ZD8.** Bob, VP8LP, will be active as ZD8LP on August 15 and 16 and September 14. Bob will be using a vertical antenna and intends to be very active on 40 through 10 meters as propagation permits. QSL direct to his home call sign only.
- ♦ **SVALBARD, JW.** Peter, JW7QIA, will be QRV in the IOTA Contest (EU-026). QSL direct or via the bureau. In addition, Niels, OZ8KR, will be active as JW/OZ8KR from August 12 to 17. Activity will be on 20 meters using SSB. He likes the frequencies 14220 and 14260 kHz. QSL via his home call sign.
- ♦ **BALAERIC ISLANDS, EA6.** Andre, LX1FX, is expected to be active from Menorca Island (EU-004) between July 22 and August 15, and possibly one week longer. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters as well as 70, 144 and 432 MHz. Modes will be CW, SSB, as well as JT6 via MS.
- ♦ **SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, ZL.** Tony, ZL2AGY, is on the air signing E51AGY. QSL via his home call.
- ♦ **NEW CALEDONIA, FK.** Jean-Louis, FK/F5NHJ, will be QRV August 12 to 29, concentrating on 30 meter CW and digital. He may make side trips to other nearby islands.
- ♦ **SENEGAL, 6V.** Members of the Senegalese SNRASEC ARC, 6W7PCT, will be celebrating Space Week, October 4 through 10, with special call 6V7SPACE.
- ♦ **CONGO, 9Q.** 9Q1TB (F5LTB), Philippe, continues to be QRV on 40 through 6 meters. He likes 20 meter SSB between 0700 and 0800z and 15 meters (21.188 MHz) in the 1500 to 1600z time frame. QSL via SM5DJZ.
- ♦ **BANGLADESH, S21.** S21RC was worked on 14265 kHz, just before 1530z. QSL via EB7DX.
- ♦ **SOUTH KOREA, 6L.** 6L0NJ/4 will be activated by the Gwangju DX Club, from August 15 to 18. They will be on all the HF bands, SSB, CW and digital. QSL via HL4XM.
- ♦ **FRANCE, TM.** Special event station TM0WPC will be activated using CW, SSB and digital modes on 160 through 2 meters from August 3 to 17, celebrating the 18th World Parachuting Championships in Formation Skydiving. QSL via F5KEB.
- ♦ **BERMUDA, VP9.** Angelio, IK2RZP, will be active as VP9/IK2RZP from August 5 to 24. Activity will be mainly SSB and the digital modes on 17 and 12 meters. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the bureau.

KiloWatt Harmonics,
August 2008

© 2008, The Steel City
Amateur Radio Club

Edited by Greg Babin,
NB3C

'KiloWatt Harmonics' is
published monthly for
the members of the
Steel City Amateur
Radio Club.

All contributions are
welcome at:
KQ3DX@hotmail.com

Reprints/quotes permit-
ted provided credit is
given to original author
and the Steel City
Amateur Radio Club.

SCARC is a not-for-
profit organization as
defined under IRS Rules
& Regulations section
501 (C) (3)

Local News/Club Stuff

♦ IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

♦ AUGUST

24: Skyview Radio Society-Western Pennsylvania

Section Convention

Skyview Radio Society Clubhouse

2335 Turkey Ridge Road

New Kensington, PA

Talk-In: 146.640- (PL 131.8)

More Info: <<http://www.skyviewradio.net/>>

Email: <SkyviewHamfest2008@verizon.net>

30: Union ARC Gabfest

Uniontown ARC Club Grounds-Old Pittsburgh Road-

Uniontown, PA

More Info: email <newsletter@w3pie.org>

♦ SEPTEMBER

9: Two Rivers ARC Amateur Radio Exams McKeesport Area

High School-South Hall-Room 112-Eden Park Blvd-

McKeesport, PA, 630 PM-48 Hour Pre-Registration

Requested-More Info: 412 664 1683/412 678 1206

email: <veteam@tworiversarc.com>

16: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting-8 PM More Info:

Internet: <<http://www.tworiversarc.com>>

Email: <trarc@tworiversarc.com>

27: South West PA Packet Group Meeting-10 AM-Blue

Flame Restaurant, Route 51 South-Pleasant Hills, PA.

♦ OCTOBER

19: Western PA Repeater Council Meeting 1:30PM

Annual Meeting & Election of Officers

Tentative: Clarion, PA

More Info: Internet-<<http://www.wprc.us>>

Email: <wprcemail@yahoo.com>

21: Two Rivers ARC Club Meeting-8 PM

- ♦ To all SCARC Members: Regretfully I have to announce the passing of our most senior club member Andy Schade W3LZA. Andy was born in 1908 and celebrated his 100th birthday this June.

- ♦ Roy W. Repp, W3TZW, passed away, with his family at his side, on Wednesday evening, July 23, 2008. Roy is a member of the North Hills Amateur Radio Club (former Etna Radio Club), the BreezeShooters, and Quarter Century Wireless Association & was an active ARES participant.

- ♦ There will be a VE testing session at the clubhouse on Monday August 11th at 7PM. If you have any questions, please let me know. Testing via W5YI VEC team - I will be one of the VE's. 73 de KB3NUQ

- ♦ I was informed via answering machine this morning by N3BPB that Bill Hall, K3VSL has passed away. Bill, along his XYL Kay, were VERY active members of SCARC for thirty five or more years. They were the housekeepers, cooks and support folks for the rest of us. Kay died about 8 years ago. About five years ago bill closed up the house in Dormont and moved to Florida where he stayed with daughter Kathy. 73 de 'SVJ.

- ♦ We have more bad news in the medical department, gents. Submarine Bob Ross, KA3AVB, was admitted to North Hills Passavant Hospital very late Thursday night with heart problems. I spoke with Bob this afternoon and he's able to speak, but he sounds very fatigued and unable to relate what the doctors intend to do with him or how long he'll be in the hospital. If I find out any more details, I'll pass them along. 73 de K9VKY.

- ♦ The Butler County Amateur Radio Association will be holding their 1st annual BCARA Swapfest, on Sept. 7 at the Unionville Fire Hall in Butler. Doors open at 8:00AM. For more info, check out the flyer on [page 24](#) of this month's newsletter.

- ♦ Hi Folks: Just a heads up. N3LL, N3EQP, WB3EML and I attended a few of these VHF Conferences in the past and found the conference to be very worth while. One year K2UYH invited N3LL and I to his shack and we spent the late nite/early morning on 432 and 1296 EME, which sounded more like the 20M cw band at 3 AM in the summer—a few dozen signals all weak to S3 or so but very copyable, except for the occasional coastal radar reflection off the moon that was more like an S7 blip every 15~20 seconds. There was that post-weekend let down of only hearing hiss from my 432 and 1296 yagis when I got home compared to Al's 28ft Kennedy dish, but certainly a good experience none the less. 73 Mike WA3TTS ([announcement below:](#))

Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference Sat. Sept 27, Blue Bell, PA and HAMARAMA Sun. Sept 28, Wrightstown Grange. Sponsored by Mt Airy VHF Radio Club. Papers and presentations solicited through August 15th. Send yours to program chair Paul Drexler, W2PED <pdrexler@hotmail.com> MSWord format preferred. Registration online or mail-in ***NOW*** at ([continued on page 19](#))

July 2008 Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the President WA3TTS, Mike at 8 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and was followed by a Moment of Silence for our Silent Keys. 28 members and 4 visitors answered the Roll Call. Minutes of the June meeting were accepted as published in the July newsletter. The Treasurer's report was given by W3SVJ, Nate in the absence of the Treasurer KA3YNO, Walt. Included are the Field Day expenses, payment for the Icom 756 PRO III and the income from the Johnson estate sale.

Committee Reports

Clubhouse WA3VXJ, Karl cut the grass several times and ran the sweeper and Bobs WB3HDI and KB3NZX trimmed weeds along the road.

Technical N3EQP, John inquired about the status of the TS-950 and offered to forward it to Kenwood for repairs.

Membership WA3BKD, Art could have given the 3rd reading for KB7HR, Gregor but he was not present although he did participate in Field Day.

Newsletter NB3C (ex KQ3DX) Greg requested pictures showing hams assisting at the Vintage Grand Prix event, for inclusion in the newsletter.

Ways and Means WA3FWA, Joe will have the 50/50 raffle after the meeting and collect any members QSL cards for the outgoing bureau. He commented that the PA QSO coffee mugs for working 100 QSO's have been sent.

Contest WQ3T, David carried the load for Field Day, working the station for the duration and setting up phone and CW macros to run the radios and the logging program. He reported that W3KWH made 517 CW and 300+ phone QSO's. W3SVJ, Nate and W3MAC, Mac had the big generator running on propane for the entire contest time. The club got additional points for the Section Manager and the local Police Chief visits as well as for ARRL messages and visitor operators. It was a good club showing!

Public Service Mike commented that the club should be involved with emergency communications to fulfill its charter provisions. KA3MSE, Lloyd introduced KA3VXM, Kathy King, the Allegheny County ARES co-coordinator and her OM WA3PYU, Mike who is the RACES officer. Kathy described the many public service events such as the Vintage Grand Prix and the Great Race that her organization provides communications for during events. Kathy and Mike detailed the connections among ARES, RACES, EOC, Red Cross, Police, Hospitals, 911 base, NES and FEMA. Local communications are done via phone on VHF and FEMA on 40 and 80 meters. SCARC clubhouse has sufficient emergency power to be a backup station.

Old Business AI3V, Mark said that the next VE session will be in Sept.

New Business Nate announced the last meeting for the Pittsburgh 250 event this Sat. July 19 at the clubhouse. The participating clubs will operate on the weekend of Aug. 2 & 3. There will be a UHF contest this same weekend.

Good of the Order Greg made a copy of the Icom 756 PRO III manual for the club. Joe WA3FWA has 2 donated tickets for the Somerset Hamfest to be raffled as secondary prizes. Nate will take the tickets to the Hamfest if the winners don't plan to attend. Joe W3BC worked VK mobile with his ICOM 7000. Bob, KB3NUQ passed his EOC test.

Motion to Adjourn by Art, WA3BKD.

50/50 raffle won by Bob, WB3HDI. Hamfest tickets won by WB8NLY, Rick and WA3FWA, Joe.

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary WA3FWA, Joe.



THE ARRL WPA SECTION:**SECTION MANAGER:**

John V. Rodgers, N3MSE
 803 S Main St.
 Butler, PA 16001-6326
 724-287-0424
[<n3mse@arrl.org>](mailto:n3mse@arrl.org)

**ASSISTANT SECTION MANAGER
ASM DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Anthony F Petrucci, KE3ED
 473 Park St.
 Rochester, PA. 15074-1859
 (724) 774-4173
[<ke3ed@arrl.net>](mailto:ke3ed@arrl.net)

CHIEF ASSISTANT SECTION MANAGER:

Bruce E Watson, AA3LX
 4347 Highland Ave.
 Butler, PA. 16001-2959
 (724) 482-2756, (412) 482-2756
[<aa3lx@aol.com>](mailto:aa3lx@aol.com)

ASM MEDIA LIASON:

Tony Zona, WB3KGT
 2485 Dorn Rd.
 Waterford, PA. 16441-4013
[<wb3kgt@arrl.net>](mailto:wb3kgt@arrl.net)

AFFILIATED CLUB COORDINATOR:

Keith "Pete" Highlands, N3RLJ
 212 N 1st St.
 Jeannette, PA. 15644-1827
 (724) 523-6232
[<n3rlj@arrl.net>](mailto:n3rlj@arrl.net)

OFFICIAL OBSERVER COORDINATOR:

R Ralph Ofchinick Jr, W3ZPI
 9 Brooklane Dr.
 Harrison City, PA. 15636-1515
 (724) 744-7180
[<w3zpi@arrl.net>](mailto:w3zpi@arrl.net)

SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR:

John S Szwarc, N3SPW
 PO Box 207
 Kylertown, PA 16847-0207
 (814) 255-7600 444, (814) 345-6727
[<n3spw@philipsburg-ara.org>](mailto:n3spw@philipsburg-ara.org)

SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER

Christin J Albert, N3YTD
 150 Wahl Rd.
 Harmony, PA. 16037-7704
 (724) 452-0583
[<cja@fyi.net>](mailto:cja@fyi.net)

The ARRL WPA Section Page

Field Day 2008 has come and gone. For many the only thing left is tabulating the scores and submitting them to the league for comparison to the other clubs in the various categories. For a few it also means putting the shack back together after taking our gear out to the different locations and operating for the weekend. The weather for the most part was nice with the exception of the one nasty storm in the early evening. I want to thank the clubs for their hospitality as I traveled about and visited the different field day sites. I always enjoy seeing the operations and visiting with the participants as I travel about. Thanks to Bruce Watson, AA3LX, who loaned me an antenna and HF rig; I was able to operate as I drove about the area.

On July 12 I will be attending the 7th annual NW hamfest in Wattsburg. Additional information can be obtained at [<http://www.nw-pa-hamfest.com>](http://www.nw-pa-hamfest.com). On Sunday July 13 I will be attending the North Hills ARC 23rd annual hamfest near Pittsburgh. Additional information may be obtained for their hamfest at [<http://www.nharc.org>](http://www.nharc.org). The final hamfest for July will be held on July 20 in Somerset and sponsored by the Somerset County ARC. Information for this hamfest can be found at [<http://www.k3smt.org/hamfest/>](http://www.k3smt.org/hamfest/). And of course don't forget the upcoming section convention at the Skyview ARC hamfest on August 24. Katie Breen, W1KRB, membership manager for the league will be in attendance as will director Bill Edgar and vice director Tom Abernathy. We are also hoping that Eastern Pennsylvania section Manager Eric Olena will be present. This will be a good chance to discuss the pending antenna legislation. I recently received this from a fellow ham and I think it does a great job at expressing what both PA. section managers have been trying to convey. Please follow the ideas and contact your senators and representatives to get this bill passed. The "model antenna bill, "PRB-1" is languishing in the PA state legislature despite passage by 26 other states. Time for you to get off the sidelines and take action before it dies with this session. The Senate voted SB 884 out of committee on June 25 and laid it on the table the same day. The House Bill, 1777 remains in committee and has not moved from the Local Government Committee since August 2007. The Legislature is in summer recess until Sept 15 when it reconvenes for a short pre-election session, then a brief "lame duck" session. If it does not pass this session the process must begin anew. Time to contact your Senators and urge the bill be moved to the floor for a vote. Remember, the House must do the same so there is a long way to go. Be a squeaky wheel and write, phone & visit your State Reps. You can find them easily by going to [<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/>](http://www.legis.state.pa.us/), go to the house and senate tabs and enter your zip code. (Note, you can also find the bill(s) from this webpage.) Be sure to ask them to contact their colleagues to move these bills forward before they die with the session. If you have friends in other clubs in the state, it would be a good idea to ask them to do likewise.

If you would like field day photos from your event posted on the section web page, forward me the images and I will post as many as space permits.

Join us on the WPA Phone and Traffic section net on 3983 KHz every evening at 6 pm.

73, John N3MSE W. PA. SM

(continued on page 15)

**Info courtesy of the ARRL Bulletin, various issues.
Thanks to ARRL for their permission to reprint.**

On Thursday, July 3, Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH -- the man who has come to embody Amateur Radio Enforcement -- said goodbye to the FCC as he retired and began his life as a private citizen. In May, Hollingsworth announced he would definitely retire; he had contemplated retiring in January 2008, but cited "several issues on the table that I want[ed] to continue to work through with the amateur community." While his successor has not yet been named, he was quick to point out that the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement program will continue.

Hollingsworth said that he has "loved" working for the FCC and has "always had great jobs, but this one involving the Amateur Radio Service has been the most fun and I have enjoyed every day of it. I've worked with the best group of licensees on earth, enjoyed your support and tremendous FCC support and looked forward every day to coming to work. The Amateur Radio Enforcement program will continue without missing a beat, and after retirement I look forward to being involved with Amateur Radio every way I can. I thank all of you for being so dedicated and conscientious, and for the encouragement you give us every day."

Saying it has been a "privilege to work with and for the Amateur Radio licensees and the land mobile frequency coordinators," Hollingsworth said that he is "extremely fortunate to work for two wonderful groups of people: Those at headquarters in the Enforcement Bureau, and for the Amateur Radio operators."

Before joining the FCC, Hollingsworth, a South Carolina native, graduated from the University of South Carolina and Wake Forest University School of Law. While in high school, he worked as a disc jockey for WRHI, an AM station in Rock Hill, South Carolina. "It's a funny thing," Hollingsworth said. "They once held a beauty pageant in Rock Hill and nobody won!" In the mid-1970s, he was a "Nader's Raider" and worked on brown lung disease in the North and South Carolina textile mills.

"Basically I'm just an ordinary guy caught in the cross-hairs of radio history," Hollingsworth said. "But I am proud of the fact that the digital clock on my VCR has been blinking for 4 years."

Hollingsworth told the ARRL he was "so very impressed" with the young people who are involved with Amateur Radio: "To the very young Amateur Radio operators I have met who have dreams of being scientists and astronauts and communications engineers, we will be pulling for you; I have a strong feeling we won't be disappointed."

Calling the Amateur Radio Service a part of the American heritage, Hollingsworth explained that he is "going to stay as actively involved in it as I possibly can. Thank you all for working tirelessly to provide the only fail safe communications system on Earth and for helping this country keep its lead in science and technology. What an incredible gift it has been to work with you every day, and how fortunate we are to love the magic of radio! Every gift of lasting value comes with responsibility. We must never forget what we owe for our spectrum privileges. I will continue working with you in every way I can to ensure that Amateur Radio lasts a thousand years."

The United States Islands (USI) awards program will host a series of special event stations -- including their main club station KL7USI -- from all over the US, Alaska and the Yukon celebrating 15 years on HF. Starting summer 2008 throughout 2009, look for USI activities on 14.260 MHz and other bands. USI is the premiere state island collecting program. Check the USI website for further details: <http://www.usislands.org>.



(More FCC/ARRL
News continued
on page 9)

The E-Bay Report

A feature where I report on some of the more interesting auctions found on E-Bay. **YE OLDE EDITOR'S DISCLAIMER:** I have no interest, either pecuniary or monetary in the auctions listed here. Just trying to make the newsletter a little bit more interesting. 73 de NB3C

Our topic this month: All Things Kenwood

Up first is an auction for a Kenwood TS-700P 2M All-Mode transceiver manufactured first way back in the 1970's. This one appeared to be very clean; from what I saw, there appeared to be no dents or scratches anywhere on it. This is an all-mode rig, with 10 watts output, covering the entire 2M band only, and came complete with the manual, power cord and original microphone. You don't see many of these up for grabs; I believe this is the first one I have seen on E-Bay. Lots of activity was seen on this one; a total of 26 bids was received and the selling price was: \$402.76. A nice little collectable piece of Kenwood history.



The Kenwood TS-700SP as seen on E-Bay. A nice rig, especially for you 2M enthusiasts out there.

Next up, I came across this nice clean TS-830S, just like the one in the club's VHF Studio. Another nice clean rig, no dents, scratches or blemishes of any kind on it. The seller reports the rig puts out 100 watts on all bands, and this one just included the original manual; no microphone or additional CW/SSB filters. Another popular auction with 15 bids received. Final price: \$416.99. Not bad for another 1970's vintage radio. Kenwood's stuff seems to hold its value over time.



The Kenwood TS-830S as offered on E-Bay

Another interesting Kenwood rig I came across was this Limited Edition TS-2000LE transceiver. This model was made in a black color scheme, not the usual grey, and was limited to only 300 total manufactured. This one looked very clean; so clean in fact, that it still had the protective cellophane cover over the display to protect it during shipping and manufacturing. No marks or scratches of any kind. This auction also included the ARCP Software pack, the DRU-3A Digital Recording Unit, and the VS-3 Voice Synthesizer, along with the power cord, original hand mic and the owner's manual. Lots of activity was seen on this one; a total of 16 bids was received, and the final price was: \$1751.00. Not much less than the original selling price, but then again not a bad deal for a limited-production radio.



The Kenwood TS-2000LE as seen on E-Bay
(more E-Bay report continued on page 14)

Website Of The Month

A feature where I try to highlight websites that I hope you, our readers will find interesting and informative. **YE OLDE**

EDITOR'S DISCLAIMER: I have no interest, either pecuniary or monetary in the sites listed/described here. Once again, I'm just trying to add some zest to the newsletter. 73 de NB3C

This month's website: Fybush Media

<<http://www.fybush.com>>

Now, I know that this one isn't an Amateur Radio related site. However, I think that those of you who enjoy AM DX'ing will find it a neat one to visit. What I found most interesting was their 'Tower-Of-The-Month' site. Following this link will take you to all sorts of interesting articles about some of the broadcast towers in use today across the country. There is also a link that'll take you to towers featured in the past. Simply follow the 'Site Of The Week Archives' link and you'll see quite a few tower sites you can explore, along with some interesting background on each of them.

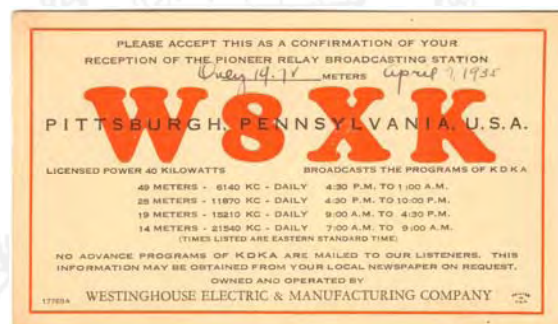
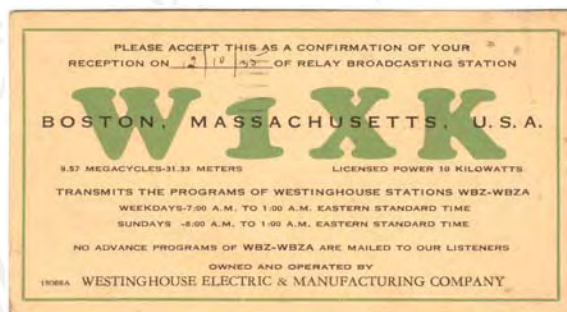
The one that caught my attention was the site in the archives in Alpine NJ. (All of the archived tower articles are indexed by state.) This is the city where Major Edwin Armstrong erected his tower, known today as the 'Armstrong Tower'. Still standing, over 70 years later, this tower was home to many of New York City's TV stations after the 9/11 attacks knocked them offline. Today, many two-way, cellular, PCS, & satellite uplink/downlink antennas call this tower home. It also gives a nice brief history about Armstrong, his discovery of FM, and the battles he went through with some of the radio giants at the time.

The site also contains news about the radio broadcast industry, who's going where, who's leaving, who's coming, etc. Lots of links are available to the FCC and their online databases concerning AM, FM and TV broadcasters, not to mention links to other broadcasters sites too. But this one made my Website Of The Month listing because of the antenna sites available. After all, what kind of Radio Amateur is NOT interested in antennas??

Be sure and check this one out. It's worth it just for the history lesson you'll get on each antenna site. Thanks for reading!!
73 de NB3C



The Armstrong Tower, located in Alpine, NJ. Still standing after 70 years. Major Edwin Armstrong erected this tower himself in the 1930's to aid in his experiments
(Picture courtesy and © Wikipedia.)



FCC/ARRL News (con't)

♦ WHO WANTS TO BE THE NEXT RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH?

No, it's not a game show, but if you are an attorney and want to work in Washington, DC, you might just be the next Riley Hollingsworth and deal with legal and policy matters pertaining to enforcement issues, with an emphasis on the Amateur Radio Service. Hollingsworth, who created the Amateur Radio Spectrum Enforcement position and served for close to 10 years, is retiring July 3.

On Tuesday, June 24, the FCC posted an announcement looking for an Attorney-Advisor (Special Counsel) within the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, Spectrum Enforcement Division to take over Hollingsworth's position, a GS-15 level, when he retires. At a minimum, candidates must hold a professional law degree -- either a JD, LL.B and/or LL.M -- and have at least four years of professional law experience; at least one year must be equivalent to the GS-14 level in the Federal Service. All applicants must be a member of their state bar association, be able to pass a federal background investigation and be eligible to hold a security clearance. Interested parties have until July 9 to apply. The position is currently based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, but according to the job announcement, will now be headquartered in the nation's capitol.

As a part of the job, the successful candidate provides authoritative legal advice to the Division Chief and Deputy Division Chiefs, Division staff, Bureau senior management and staff, as well as Commission officials on legal matters pertaining to assigned enforcement issues and activities. They are also responsible for proper interpretation of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, the Commission's Rules and all FCC policies. They will provide expert advice on legal issues affecting policy matters, evaluate current and potential policy issues and initiate original research and investigative analysis. They also must be able to conduct legal reviews and analyze issues affecting enforcement policy under consideration for the Amateur Radio Service, as well as be required to use legal expertise in researching precedents and advise on the appropriateness of actions or make recommendations for alternative approaches.

The successful candidate must keep abreast of major legal developments affecting enforcement issues and activities. They will perform incumbent reviews and approve the work of lower graded attorneys, assuring that the documents are legally and factually adequate, complete, comprehensive and internally consistent and in conformance with existing policy and precedent decisions, as well as handle unusually complex and controversial cases, including those of a precedent-setting nature.

The FCC offers a wide range of employee benefits including life insurance, holidays and leave, health insurance, a thrift savings plan, long-term care insurance and a retirement plan. For more information on the position, please contact Susan Beckham at the FCC's Enforcement Bureau via e-mail. (continued on page 13)

New Local 50MHz Beacon Up & Running

Hi Folks: I have a low power 10 milliwatt cw beacon running at my home QTH on 50.070.8 MHz signing VVV VVV VVV WA3TTS/B WA3TTS/B EN90XN EN90XN VVVV VVVV VVVV. It is S5 at the club on the 6M yagi and IC-756PIII and Joe W3BC was also able to copy it on his mobile vertical antenna from the club parking lot. Kurt, KA3LNG was able to hear it weakly. Dave WA3DJG in Belle Vernon reports hearing it weakly as does Jim K3JRD in Connellsville. W3PIE also has a 50.062 MHz beacon running from their clubhouse into an 80m inverted vee until they get their omni antenna up. If the 1 watt driver amp I am constructing for the TTS/B comes to life without complications, the beacon will be 20 db stronger in the not too distant future. My goal is to add a 222 MHz and 902 MHz beacon complement to "the 50MHz beacon box" and give it to Karl, WA3VXJ to reside on his EM99 QTH. In the meantime, enjoy trying to pick a weak signal out of the noise on 6 meters if you have a radio with a 6M ssb/cw mode capability. 73 Mike WA3TTS (more beacon on page 16)

FD 2008: 3E, Thanks To Our Reliable GenSet

This is not a field day report although the connections (electrician humor) are more than casual. It's more of a "Standby/Backup/Emergency" electrical energy report as it applies to our club. In 1973 I bought a 2.5 Kw generator to use on our jobs where there was not yet electricity available, that's why we were there! That generator set was always available to the club (and most anybody that wanted to borrow it!) and mostly resided there for the last twenty years or so. It finally was given on "permanent loan" to the radio club. About seven years ago Al, NU3S, donated a similar but a bit larger capacity machine to the club and we were in the enviable position of having TWO portable (if your under fifty they're portable) gensets. These are the ever-reliable "Briggs & Stratton" gasoline plants.

Four years ago when Doug, W3HH, and his family moved to Florida the club was again the beneficiary of yet another power plant. Doug, very generously, gave his electric power plant to the radio club. This machine is a four cylinder Wisconsin engine with a VERY conservatively rated 6kva generator. The machine runs at 1800 rpm and has been outfitted for propane. The machine, although under utilized this time, ran flawlessly during our field day event. The back up power system that we now have is still a "work in progress" and with very little effort can be brought on line in various configurations to run the club radios and maybe most of the club should the need arise.

At this time it is VERY important that the kind people who put a lot of time, energy and expertise into this ongoing project be noted. Of course, the equipment donors deserve a "thank you" as well those who nursed the equipment for all the years that we used the gensets. Coming to mind at the moment in no particular order are Bob, WB3HDI, Karl, WA3VXJ, Bob, KB3NZX, and the other various "gear heads" who added to the success of these projects, but my grey matter has not retained their names and calls.

However, the last endeavor, the transport, modification and set up of the "Mighty Wisconsin": plant was a mostly solo and heroic effort of Mac, W3MAC. To move a nearly 1000 pound piece of machinery from the interior of a residence to the radio club site, then off load it and then reinstall on timbers is no small task. Mac also outfitted the vapor fuel system, air intake and hot exhaust paths. A lot of hours and energy went into this and more will be required. Thanks to all involved. Additional details in a later HARMONICS. 73 de svj.



The August Birthday Bunch

Doug, K3LAB 5th

Bob, W6LAC 19th

Dale, WB3CRC 22nd

Della, N3DQ 26th

Bob, N3EVM 26th

Jason, AE3JM 30th

Bob, WB3HDI 30th

Happy Birthday to all our members celebrating that special day this month!! 73 de NB3C and W3SVJ



An Oldie But Still A Goodie

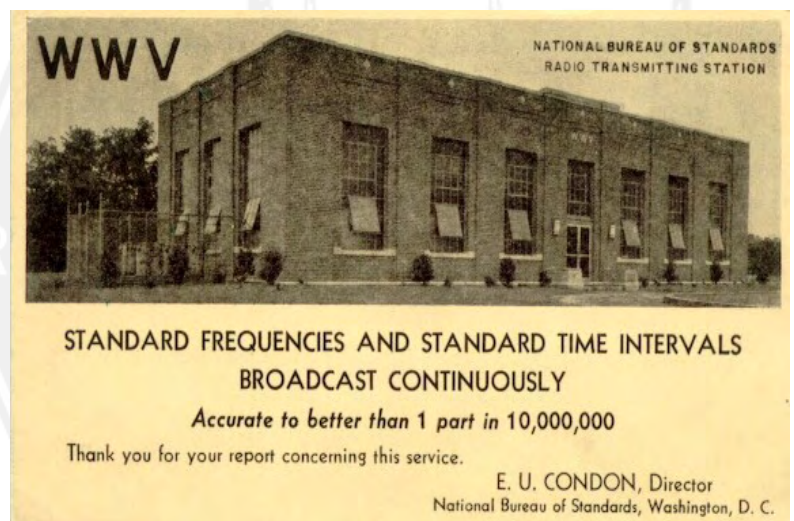
Many thanks to a past, long time, member Ray McKenzie, W3ZPZ, for his most generous donation to SCARC.

Techtronics oscilloscopes were the "crème de la crème" of the late 60s and early 70s. Even though this is "tube" technology it is still a high performer. The dual trace module is good to 100mhz with highly accurate calibration. Other modules are available to view four channel inputs and it too is very accurate. Although decades old, the scope is still a most valuable instrument to have been added to our signal generator(s) and spectrum analyzer compliment of test gear. The scope is a natural for TDR (time domain reflectometer) tests on all of the long coax-to-antenna runs.

Pictured is the 544 model along with the supporting modules. Ray also gave us a repairable scope as well as a third scope for parts, all with operating and maintenance manuals.

A great addition to the club lab, thank you again, for remembering SCARC, Ray.

73 de SVJ



W3SVJ's Goodies

It's antenna-raising time of the year, be careful out there!

This came to me via the QCWA reflector. It's worth the read. We, that live in urban areas, are surrounded by this stuff. I'm on a corner lot. I have a "HI" line across the front (south) of the house and along the east side.

Being killed by "electrickery" is NOT dying of "natural causes" and not "peacefully"! 73 es stay safe out there de W3SVJ

THESE NEWS ITEMS MOTIVATED CHUCK KRALY, KOXM, TO WRITE THIS MESSAGE:

"We lost another ham today, and it is a very sad event. The parties involved, were installing a Comet FIBERGLASS antenna, that came in contact with a single 7620V power line. Now how do I know what the exact voltage is? I built and maintained the substation that fed this circuit. I spent 27 years as a substation technician for the Board of Public Utilities. I am still in this field. So, I feel I have some experience in what I am passing along.

In a nutshell, the location of the accident was a few blocks from the substation. The wires you see going thru the residential areas are AT MINIMUM 7200 volts from each wire to ground, and between any two of them is 13,800 volts. This is nothing to play with at any time. I have seen a fault TOTALLY vaporize 1" copper buss (which is solid). Imagine what it can do to a human.

Each wire is fed from what is called a 3-phase line. From there, it can be broken off and sent down a property line as a single wire. Those are called "laterals" Yes, you will see a device at the break out point, and this is a fuse. BUT, a caution needs to be conveyed. These fuses are in the 60-100 amp range. This is at 7200 volts. On top of that, anytime a tree falls across a line, or a pole gets hit, there is a circuit on the "feeder" at the substation that AUTOMATICALLY closes the feeder back in, and TRIES to restore the power to the area. Some of these "reclosers" can operate 2-5 times, depending on how they are set. Now, from the substation end, the protective device is set for the full fault capabilities of the line. In the case of BPU, this can be set at 600 AMPS, and multiples of that value. The protective devices are set for what is called a "time" or "instantaneous" operation. Picture a fast blow fuse and a slow blow, and you will understand the difference in the settings. These settings are at multiples of the 600-amp value.

So, if there is a direct short, then it will not trip until it reaches a value at, oh lets say, 8 times that value. So we are looking at 4800 amps, and this is at 7200 volts and lower. So, it trips, then it energizes it AGAIN. The possibility of survival is slim and none.

Now remember how I said they were installing a FIBERGLASS antenna? Well guess what. It is metal inside. Yes, fiberglass does not radiate as we all know. Hence the metal. That is what caused the accident. They got too close to the line (remember your 'magnetic lines of flux' theory? If not, look it up on the web). There is a minimum approach area that MUST be followed. This changes for ALL voltages. This distance must NOT be broken. If it is a flashover will happen, and it is not pretty. Electricity will find the shortest path to ground. In this case it was a couple of men.

Folks, this is nothing to take chances with. In my almost 30 yrs as a ham, and 27 years in the power utility field, I have seen way too many "accidents." Stop, look, and if it is close or SEEMS that way- DON'T.

Find another place. High voltage lines are NOT forgiving. Your life depends on it. You always hear "it is the amps not the volts" well I can tell you when you get at these levels, who is going to argue what killed the person who had the accident. PLEASE, PLEASE follow the warnings. ANYWHERE close is too close.

Stay safe, and I hope we can enjoy many more years of hamming. Thanks guys, Chuck Kraly, KOXM"



FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE READING THE ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER VERSION: IF YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT 500KV DOES AT A SUBSTATION WHEN THE TECHNICIANS BREAK THE CIRCUIT, CHECK OUT THE SHORT MOVIE FILE LOCATED HERE: <http://www.w3kwh.com/newsletters/extras/500kv.html>

RESPECT ELECTRICITY. RESPECT IT!! 73 de NB3C

FCC/ARRL News (con't)

♦ AMATEUR STATION AT SMITHSONIAN QRT AFTER 32 YEARS

After more than 30 years on the air from the nation's capital, NN3SI <http://americanhistory.si.edu/events/programdetail.cfm?newskey=48>, the Amateur Radio station at the National Museum of American History <http://americanhistory.si.edu/index.cfm> -- part of the Smithsonian Institution <http://www.si.edu/> -- became silent on Thursday, July 31. Originally located in the Nations of Nations exhibit, the station first went on-the-air in 1976 in celebration of the US Bicentennial. The FCC caught the patriotic spirit, giving the station a temporary call sign -- NN3SI -- standing for Nation of Nations, Smithsonian Institution. The Commission later made the call sign allocation permanent.

According to NN3SI volunteer Carl Lagoda, W3CL, a Special Event operation was planned for earlier this week, with certificates available to those who contacted NN3SI. DX Summit <http://www.dxsummit.fi/> spotted NN3SI on 75, 40 and 20 meters SSB.

NN3SI has been situated in several different exhibitions in the Museum; it was most recently housed in the former Information Age exhibit. This exhibit chronicled the birth and growth of the electronic information age -- from Samuel Morse's invention of a practical telegraph in the 1830s through the development of the telephone, radio, television and computer. The Museum has been closed since 2006 while undergoing a major renovation and is scheduled to reopen to the public this fall. There is no space available for a new radio exhibit.

The station participated in many special events throughout its history. During the dedication of the World War II Memorial on the National Mall, station operators made many contacts and taught children visiting the Museum how to spell their names in Morse code. Over the years, operators at NN3SI -- who hailed from the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia (and the occasional guest operators from various parts of the globe) -- have logged contacts with amateurs in all parts of the world and with astronauts and cosmonauts in orbit. By operating the station,

NN3SI ops promoted Amateur Radio as a national resource for emergency communications, trained operators, technicians and engineers -- as well as an outstanding hobby -- to the more than 4 million people who visit the Museum each year.

QSL NN3SI via the www.QRZ.com address

♦ GERMAN RADIO MANUFACTURER HALTS TRANSCEIVER PRODUCTION

In a surprise move, Hilberling GmbH <http://www.hilberling.com/> has stopped production on the much anticipated PT-8000 series of HF/VHF Amateur Radio transceivers. Apparently due to CE marking regulations http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CE_mark, Hilberling had to make constant adjustments to the design of the radio and was unable to repeat the performance of prototypes in production models and was not able to justify the expense involved with further redesign work. The 'CE' mark certifies that a product has met European Union health, safety and environmental requirements, ensuring consumer safety. Array Solutions <http://www.arrayolutions.com> -- which had been set to be the North American distributor for the transceiver series -- featured the PT-8000 at its booths at the 2008 Dayton Hamvention.

Hans Hilberling, DK7LG, explained in German on the company's Web site why the company canceled production of the PT-8000 series: "Production of the PT-8000 equipment series has been halted. Due to the persistent challenges we've had to overcome in the process of bringing the official EU-wide manufacturer's model to fruition, it became necessary to make more and more adaptations in the design of this cutting-edge transceiver. The lofty design goals of the PT-8000 could be attained in some prototypes. We encountered difficulties that we could not overcome at justifiable expense in guaranteeing, without reservation, a high standard of mass production involving many suppliers. We appreciate the great interest this project has attracted over its entire course." -- Translation by Rick Lindquist, WW3DE
(continued on page 17)

The E-Bay Report (con't)

During the 80's, Kenwood made a kilowatt desktop amp, the TL-922A. A very popular amp, you'll still hear many of these on the air today, including mine, if you work me during a contest. This one listed on E-Bay was very clean; it was reported to have been in good working condition, and it was listed with a 15 day guarantee to back that claim up. From the pictures posted, it appears to have been well maintained and cared for too. A rugged amp, it is capable of a KW out on all HF bands, running 2 3-500Z tubes. Many bidders showed interest in this one: 31 bids were received and the final selling price was \$850.00. A nice bargain for a nice amp; I believe I paid about double that when I bought mine new in the late 80's. Mine is still going strong with the original tubes. Even though these are about 15-20 years old, you can still get parts for them.



The Kenwood TL-922A Amp recently offered on E-Bay

Here's a very clean TS-950SD I stumbled across. This one was also recently serviced and brought up to specs by a qualified repair center. The owner gave this gem a 9+ cosmetically, and also reported it to have less than 4 hours operating time since its return from the service center. This one comes with all the filters installed, plus an additional narrow SSB filter. Topping it off, the original owners manual, service manual, and all the service bulletins issued are included; however it does not come with the microphone or the accessory plugs. Lots of bids were received on this rig; a total of 30 in all. Final price: \$1226.76.

However, the reserve was not met, so it went unsold. Too bad, because this looked like a nice rig; one of the last of the big-size Kenwood transceivers.



The Kenwood TS-950SD

Up last this month is a TS-940SAT transceiver. I believe this to be Kenwood's top-of-the-line entry from the late 80's-early 90's. This particular unit looked so nice, it's entirely possible that it was sealed in a time capsule 20 years ago and just recently opened. No marks or scratches on the top, back or front of the rig, or for that matter, anywhere else. Described as having no problems, it was also reported as having full power output on all bands, and was recently serviced by a qualified Service Center. I remember this rig from my early days in radio. I would have been very happy to have had a rig of this caliber gracing my shack. Apparently others feel the same way too. 15 bids were received, with a final selling price of \$850.00. I'd say that's about 1/3 of what they went for originally, if memory serves me correctly.



The Kenwood TS-940 as seen on E-Bay

That's it for this month. Thanks for reading!!

73 de NB3C



ARRL WPA Section News (con't)

These past months have been very busy. Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar N3LLR, Atlantic Division Vice Director Tom Abernethy W3TOM and Maryland/DC Section Manager Jim Cross WI3N were at the Father's Day hamfest in Frederick, MD on June 15th. We had an excellent time seeing friends and meeting new people.

June 19th found both Bill N3LLR and Tom W3TOM in Washington, DC for a meeting with a group of amateur radio operators and ARRL President Joel Harrison W5ZN, 1st Vice President Kay Craigie N3KN, ARRL CEO Dave Sumner K1ZZ, ARRL Corporate Counsel Chris Imlay W3KD, along with MDC Section Manager, Jim Cross WI3N.

Field Day weekend found both Bill and Tom starting in Corning, NY to travel around Western NY and northwestern PA visiting field day sites. We had a blast and want to thank each of the clubs at the field day sites we visited for their warm and generous hospitality. It was spectacular to see how each group was using amateur radio to participate in Field Day. I had the very distinct pleasure of meeting for the first time in an eyeball QSO, John Park WA2SSJ. John was a student of mine in an EmComm course several years ago.

The Eastern PA Section Convention was held on July 4th in Harrisburg at the Firecracker Hamfest. They had excellent presentations given at the forums, and the convention was done very well. This happened despite the untimely passing of Pete DeVolpi K3PD, who was instrumental in this hamfest becoming the Eastern PA Section Convention. ARRL leadership was well represented here with EPA Section Manager, Eric Olena WB3FPL; WPA Section Manager, John Rodgers N3MSE; along with the Atlantic Division Director and Vice Director.

Two days later, the Murgas Hamfest was held near Wilkes-Barre and both Bill N3LLR and Tom W3TOM were there along with EPA Section Manager, Eric Olena WB3FPL. The following weekend found the Atlantic Division Director at two hamfests along with WPA Section Manager, John Rodgers N3MSE. Saturday was the NWPA Hamfest near Erie and Sunday was the North Hills ARC hamfest near Pittsburgh.

This past weekend was the ARRL Board Meeting in the Hartford, CT area. This board meeting was very productive. Board meeting minutes should be published very shortly. One of the highlights of the meeting was the demo of revamping of the ARRL website. Plans are to re-develop the site to make navigation easier especially with the large amount of content our site holds. Another highlight of the meeting was the announcement of Walt Palmer W4ALT, Delaware Section Public Information Coordinator as the winner of the 2008 Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award.

During these two months we've held several well attended webinars on subjects which include: Update of the American Red Cross Background check issue as it pertains to ARRL volunteers. Bob Bruninga WB4APR, the developer of APRS, has done three APRS webinar training sessions on topics: APRS, it's not what you think; APRS for your mobile and APRS for special events. These presentations have been very well received. His last presentation will be on APRS for Satellites.

Additionally, we are fortunate to have Western Pennsylvania amateur radio operator and attorney, Mike Lazaroff K3AIR and ARRL Corporate Counsel, Chris Imlay W3KD give a webinar training session dealing with PRB-1, dealing with zoning boards and town councils. These webinars will audio available by VOIP and telephone. The VOIP is audible over your computer speakers. To sign up for any or all of these webinars, go to: www.atldiv.org/training and click on the register button for each one you are interested in. Once you have registered, you should receive an email with the information to connect up for the webinar(s) you have registered for. There is no charge for these sessions.

73,

Bill Edgar, N3LLR, Atlantic Division Director & Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, Atlantic Division Vice Director



More 50MHz Beacon Info (con't)

Here are two so-so photos on the 6M beacon rebuild.

In the first picture to the right, you can see the speaker and NE555 audio oscillator for message verification on the far left front, next, to the right is the XT4 beacon keyer and PNP switching transistor set. Front middle is the MPF102 oscillator and buffer module which goes into a 9ele Chebychev LPF on far right front. The LPF feeds an MAR4 stage with a hybrid splitter output. One output from the hybrid splitter feeds the 2N3866 driver, then the output from the 2N3866 stage goes through another LPF. The black module on the right-rear is the 1W final amp, not in circuit yet. Still one more LPF to build and some power supply and regulator wiring, but that is where things stand so far. I have an unbuilt Hamtronics transmit converter and the right crystal to mix 50.070 with 172Mhz and come out at 222.070, so that is the next step once the 1W 50 MHz amp section goes on line. Right now the beacon is on 50.070.3 or so with about 40 milliwatts output. The buffer amplifier is not being keyed now that two other gain stages are available. That reduced the CW chirp from 10Hz down to 1~2Hz, which most ears can't detect. The 10Hz shift was obvious on the Spectran waterfall view and audibly detectable with a careful listen.

The 2nd harmonic is 50db down and higher harmonics 80 db down or more. 73 Mike WA3TTS



The Steel City Swap 'n Shop

The following computer stuff is for sale by Ye Olde Editor: Compaq Presario 5838 computer. This is a cannibalized unit, consisting of a motherboard with a 500MHz AMD Athlon processor, 320MB of DDR RAM, a good video card, sound card, Ethernet card, and power supply. Basically it is complete, except for a hard drive, DVD ROM and CD Burner, and a 3 1/2" floppy drive. Very good condition. Can run either XP or Win98. Price: 5 BUCKS!!! Help me clean out my basement, please.

HP Pavilion 8770C computer. Also cannibalized, this one comes with a good power supply, video card, and CD Burner, but no hard drive, floppy drive or sound card. This one is a 850MHz AMD Athlon, with 384MB of DDR RAM installed. Price: 5 BUCKS!! Help me clean out my basement, please. Will also run Win98 or XP no problem.

Also, a HP 1215 PhotoSmart Photo Printer. In great condition; no marks or scratches. This printer will print photo-quality pictures. I used it for printing QSL cards, and the quality is just like you would get at a drugstore. No ink is included but for the price, it's a steal: 10 BUCKS!! (Ink is still readily available.) I will include drivers for Win98 and XP. Interested? E-Mail me: [KQ3DX@hotmail.com](mailto:<KQ3DX@hotmail.com>) or PH 412-735-9942. I can bring all this stuff to the club, too.

I also have 2 monitors: One is a Compaq Presario MV520 15" CRT monitor. Very clean; no scratches or marks on the case or screen. Price: 10 BUCKS. The other: a HP Pavilion M70 17" CRT. Same condition. Both work great. Price: 15 BUCKS!! Help me clean out my basement, please. Thanks for looking!! CUL/73 de NB3C



FCC/ARRL News (con't)

The PT-8000 was featured in a 4-page pull-out advertisement in the May 2007 issue of QST. The ad stated that Hilberling had not yet received approval by the FCC to market the radio in the US. All digital devices -- including Amateur Radio equipment -- must be approved by the FCC, meeting the requirements of FCC Part 15 and RSS 210 (Radio Standards Specifications, Industry Canada) to ensure its compliance as an unintentional radiator and as a generic receiver. Approval was granted in May 2008. Testing was done in April and May 2008 by Professional Testing (EMI) of Round Rock, Texas.

According to the QST ad, the PT-8000 was set to feature:

- * An automatically tuned preselector
- * Precision matched first and second mixers, designed by Synergy Microwave, with third intercept points at 40+ dBm
- * Three roofing filters at 2.7, 6 and 12 kHz
- * Six hybrid amplifiers from LF to VHF with third intercept points at 50+ dBm
- * Seven 16-pole ladder filters working in combination with DSP filters in the 10.7 MHz second IFs of each filter
- * 13.8 V HF MOSFETs (metal-oxide-semiconductor field-effect transistor) in the 100 W power amplifier; high efficiency (70 percent) SD3933 HF MOSFETs in the 600 W final amplifier
- * Three additional 70.7 MHz roofing filters in the transmitter stages for clean output
- * Designed with UHF and microwave transverters in mind, 1 Hz frequency resolution with the ability to connect transverters to both receivers simultaneously
- * Taps at the first and second IFs for analysis, monitoring and experimentation
- * Easily updatable firmware.

The price for a 10 W PT-8000 started at \$12,000, going up to \$16,000 for the 600 W model. Commercial and military grades were priced at an additional \$10,000.

♦ HF DIGITAL VOICE PROGRAMS ONCE AGAIN AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

Citing codec (coding/decoding) licensing issues, three free Windows programs for sound card-based HF digital voice were yanked from their download site for a short time recently, surprising hams who are interested in HF digital voice operation; several online groups that supported the software were also closed for a short time.

WinDRM, DRMDV and FDMDV, all written by Cesco Lanza, HB9TLK, used a codec that was developed for the US Department of Defense and NATO. Rights to various forms of the codec are held by several companies. According to Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, the companies have "winked" at ham radio use for several years, but a recent complaint caused the programs to be pulled from the download site. "Lanza did a quick rewrite to use an open-source codec, and now WinDRM and FDMDV are back," Pearce said. "DRMDV, an intermediate program between the other two, has been abandoned. WinDRM could always use the open-source Speex codec, but FDMDV users will need to download the new version."

Pearce said these three programs all allow hams to transmit and receive digital voice by connecting their PC sound card to an ordinary SSB transceiver: "The result has been surprisingly high quality audio, with virtually no noise -- sort of like listening to FM, but in the narrow bandwidth of a side-band signal. WinDRM, the best sounding program, uses 2.5 kHz of spectrum. FDMDV sounds a little rougher, but uses only 1.1 kHz of spectrum. They both use OFDM modulation, a set of close-spaced carriers that are each modulated with a little bit of data to add up to the final digital signal. The main problem with HF digital voice is that it needs fairly strong signals. FDMDV works better with weaker signals than WinDRM."

Pearce said that none of the available open-source codecs work as well as the old one: "MELP <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MELP>>, or Mixed Excitation Linear Prediction, was designed specifically for high-quality, low data-rate voice communication. So the on-air audio might suffer some with the new version. Digital voice users have been waiting and hoping for someone to concentrate on developing a codec optimized for ham radio use, but none has been forthcoming." FDMDV and WinDRM can both be downloaded from Jason Buchanan's, N1SU, Web site <<http://www.n1su.com/>>.

The AOR digital voice modems and D-STAR radios both use the AMBE 2020 vocoder, and are not affected by the coding changes; the AMBE 2020 vocoder is a proprietary chip that is embedded in each unit. (more FCC/ARRL on page 21)

Cool 'Pittsburgh 250' Facts

Pittsburgh is celebrating its 250-year anniversary this year. For those of you that lived near Pittsburgh, this will just jog your memory. If you didn't live here, it will be some good trivia for you. Pittsburgh (and some surrounding areas) was the first city in the world to do a lot of neat things! Here are a few of the most well-known:

First Heart, Liver, Kidney Transplant - December 3, 1989. The first simultaneous heart, liver and kidney transplant was done at Presbyterian-University Hospital.

The First Internet Emoticon - 1980. The Smiley :-) was the first Internet emoticon, created in 1980 by Carnegie Mellon University computer scientist Scott Fahlman.

First Robotics Institute - 1979. The Robotics Institute at Carnegie Mellon University was established in 1979 to conduct basic and applied research in robotics technologies relevant to industrial and societal tasks. The college is still working on Robots ~ in fact it is their robots used in the unmanned air craft that fly over Iraq .

First Mr. Yuk Sticker - 1971. Mr. Yuk was created at the Poison Center at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh after research indicated that the skull and crossbones previously used to identify poisons had little meaning to the children of today (for most children it means exciting things like pirates and adventure). Covering 27 counties and 33 percent of Pennsylvania's population, the Pittsburgh Poison Center at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh is the largest such center in the United States .

First Night World Series Game - 1971. Game 4 of the 1971 World Series was the first night game in Series history. Pittsburgh tied the series in that game with a 4-3 win and went on to win the series, 4 games to 3. This was one of the last big moments in the career of well-loved Pirate, Roberto Clemente. Fourteen and a half months after the 1971 World Series, he died in a plane crash off the coast of his native Puerto Rico as he attempted to take food, clothing and medical supplies to earthquake victims in Nicaragua .

First Big Mac - 1967. Created by Jim Delligatti at his Uniontown McDonald's, the Big Mac debuted and was test marketed in three other Pittsburgh-area McDonald's restaurants in 1967... Bellevue and Butler . By 1968 it was a mainstay on McDonald's menus throughout the country and eventually, the world.

First Pull-Tab on Cans - 1962. The pull-tab was developed by Alcoa and was first used by Iron City Brewery in 1962. For many years, pull-tabs were only used in this area.

First Retractable Dome - September 1961. Pittsburgh's Civic Arena boasts the world's first auditorium with a retractable roof. This is still being used although the Hockey team wants to tear it down and build a new building.

First U.S. Public Television Station - WQED - April 1, 1954. WQED, operated by the Metropolitan Pittsburgh educational Station, was the first community-sponsored educational television station in America and was also the first to telecast classes to elementary schools (1955).

First Polio Vaccine - March 26, 1953. The polio vaccine was developed by Dr. Jonas E. Salk, a 38-year-old University of Pittsburgh researcher and professor, and his staff at the University of Pittsburgh .

First All-Aluminum Building - ALCOA - August 1953. The first aluminum-faced skyscraper was the Alcoa Building, a 30-story, 410 foot structure with thin stamped aluminum panels forming the exterior walls. (This building is still being used today.)

First Zippo Lighter - 1932. George G. Blaisdell invented the Zippo lighter in 1932 in Bradford , Pennsylvania . Although hardly a community "in the surrounding area," you can even find the name of the manufacturing location, either Bradford or Niagara Falls, stamped on the bottom of every Zippo lighter. The name Zippo was chosen by Blaisdell because he liked the sound of the word "zipper" - which was patented around the same time in nearby Meadville , PA.

First Bingo Game - early. Hugh J. Ward first came up with the concept of bingo in Pittsburgh and began running the game at carnivals in the early 1920's, taking it nationwide in 1924. He secured a copyright on the game and wrote a book of Bingo rules in 1933.

(continued on page 20)

More Local News (con't)

<www.packratvhf.com> & choose the VHF conference link.

Topics to date include:

K3TUF - Digital Station Enhancements

W2PED - What's new for 24 GHz

K1DS - Getting Started on EME

ND3F - A Backpack Portable Station

N4HY - Software Defined Radio Advancements

K2UYH - Portable EME

More to come. Early Bird Special Combo includes Friday night Hospitality Conference, AM coffee, Sat Lunch, PM snacks, Triple Choice Buffet Sat eve and ticket to HAMARAMA, The Annual Packrat Hamfest & flea market on Sun Sept 28. Rate good only thru Sept 5. Price: \$75. PayPal and credit cards accepted.

♦ Ye Olde Editor has a new callsign. My new call is now 'NB3C'. Why did I change it? I dunno, I kinda like the way it looks and sounds. Oh well, vanity (call) thy name is ham. My E-Mail address will remain the same: <KQ3DX@hotmail.com>.

♦ Are you interested in emergency communications but don't know where to start? Consider joining the local ARES/RACES group. Members/volunteers are always needed, and this is a great way to contribute your operating talents and skills to a worthwhile cause. You can join now by copying and filling out the application blank at the end of this newsletter. Stick it in an envelope and send it off to: **Kathy King, 17 Beltzhoover Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA. 15210**. She's the local ARES/RACES coordinator, and she'll see to it that your application gets in the right hands.

♦ Bob, W3RJM, is currently in Jefferson hospital. He fell down the steps at home a few days ago, and broke his wrist. There is also a possibility that the fall may have been caused by a stroke or similar event. I do not have further information at this time; if I learn more, I'll pass it on. In the meantime, please keep Bob in your thoughts.



Credits/Thanks

Many thanks to those listed who took the time to submit material for this month's newsletter. Your efforts help make for a better, more informative newsletter every month.

Plus, it makes my job that much easier:

W3SVJ, WA3TTS, KA3LNG, WA3FWA, KB3NUQ, N3MSE, W3TOM, N3LLR, K9VKY, W3WN, K0XM, and ARRL.

That's it for this month. CU next month with more news/features/pictures/minutiae from the world of Amateur Radio. CUL/73 de NB3C et al.



Propagation Report

July ended with no sunspots at all -- save for three days, July 18-20, when one weak sunspot group appeared and faded from view. Sunspot numbers for those days were 11, 12 and 11. Sunspot numbers for July 24-30 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 0. The 10.7 cm flux was 65.4, 65.8, 66.1, 66.3, 66.3, 66 and 66.5 with a mean of 66.1. Estimated planetary A indices were 11, 3, 5, 7, 7, 3 and 5 with a mean of 5.9. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 7, 2, 4, 4, 6, 2 and 4 with a mean of 4.1. The outlook from the US Air Force Space Weather operations for many weeks now has shown a predicted solar flux of 66; their prediction from July 31 shows the same for the next 45 days. This tells us that there isn't any period where we might expect more sunspot activity, or at least no way to foresee it. They predict the next geomagnetic activity of any note for August 10, with a planetary A index of 20. They predict a planetary A index of 8 for August 1, then 5 for August 2-6 then 8 again on August 7. Geophysical Institute Prague echoes that prediction with quiet to unsettled conditions for August 1 and 7, and quiet conditions August 2-6. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>>. To read this week's Solar Report in its entirety, check out the W1AW Propagation Bulletin page <<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/>>.

(courtesy of the ARRL Bulletin)



Cool Pittsburgh 250 Facts (con't)

First U.S. Commercial Radio Station - KDKA - November 2, 1920. Dr. Frank Conrad, assistant chief engineer of Westinghouse Electric, first constructed a transmitter and installed it in a garage near his home in Wilkinsburg in 1916. The station was licensed as 8XK. At 6 PM. on Nov. 2, 1920, 8XK became KDKA Radio and began broadcasting at 100 watts from a makeshift shack atop one of the Westinghouse manufacturing buildings in East Pittsburgh. (The station is now KDKA.)

The First Gas Station - December, 1913. In 1913, the first automobile service station, built by Gulf Refining Company, opened in Pittsburgh at Baum Boulevard and St. Clair Street in East Liberty. It was designed by J. H. Giesey.

The First Baseball Stadium in the U.S. - 1909. In 1909 the first baseball stadium, Forbes Field, was built in Pittsburgh, followed soon by similar stadiums in Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, and New York. Forbes Field closed in 1970 when Three Rivers Stadium opened. PNC Park is the newest replacement, opening in 2001.

First Motion Picture Theater - 1905. The first theater in the world devoted to the exhibition of motion pictures was the "Nickelodeon," opened by Harry Davis on Smithfield Street in Pittsburgh.

First Banana Split - 1904. The banana split was invented by Dr. David Strickler, a pharmacist, at Strickler's Drug Store in Latrobe, Pennsylvania.

The First World Series - 1903. The Boston Pilgrims defeated the Pittsburgh Pirates five games to three in baseball's first modern World Series in 1903. The Pirates lost the final game 4-3, before a crowd of 7,455 in Boston. Four of the series' games were played in Pittsburgh.

First Ferris Wheel - 1892/1893. The first Ferris Wheel, invented by Pittsburgh native and civil engineer, George Washington Gale Ferris (1859-1896) was in operation at the World's Fair (Columbian Exposition) in Chicago. It was over 264 feet high and was capable of carrying more than 2,000 passengers at a time.

Long-Distance Electricity - 1885. Westinghouse Electric developed alternating current, allowing long-distance transmission of electricity for the first time.

First Air Brake - 1869. The first practical air brake for railroads was invented by George Westinghouse in the 1860's and patented in 1869. In the same year he organized the Westinghouse Air Brake Company. With additional automatic features incorporated into its design, the air brake became widely accepted, and the Railroad Safety Appliance Act of 1893 made air brakes compulsory on all American trains.

The STEELERS were purchased by Art Rooney Sr. for \$2500...they were originally the Canton Bulldogs. They are the first team to win four super bowls, now five after six appearances, and the first team to get in the playoffs as a wild card and go all the way to win the Super Bowl.

The Pittsburgh Rens played basketball at the Civic Arena but are no longer in existence.

The Rolling Stones came to Pittsburgh first and played at West View Park Danceland. It cost 50 cents. They were considered too weird and went back to England and came back after the Beatles broke the ice.

Now, go have a good day and know where all the great stuff starts!!

(Many thanks to Joe, WA3FWA, our Recording Secretary for sending this my way. 73 de NB3C)



FCC/ARRL News (con't)

♦ KANSAS HAM, SON, ELECTROCUTED WHILE ERECTING ANTENNAS

While putting up backyard antennas on the afternoon of Sunday, July 13, Edward Thomas, KCOTIG, of Kansas City, Kansas, and his son Jacob were electrocuted. Edward, 65, was pronounced dead at the scene. Jacob, 27, was rushed to the hospital but died later that day. Initial reports suggest that the antenna they were installing came in contact with 7620V power lines. Neighbors reported a "loud popping sound" and the electricity went out on the block.

Jacob's 7 year old daughter witnessed the tragedy and ran to the neighbor's yard, calling for help. Byron Kirkwood and another neighbor attempted to perform CPR on the men; the neighbor also called 911. Robert Mullendore, a spokesman for the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (KCBPU), was quoted by Kansas City television station KSBH as saying it is rare to survive a shock as strong as the two men received: "There are people who will survive - they're lucky by the grace of God, it's high energy, it's dangerous, that's why it's up in the air -- you just have to be careful. Even those who survive have pretty wicked wounds and they are lifelong wounds." In the power business for more than 30 years, the spokesman said these accidents are "really rare," saying that he only sees something like this "every two or three years. If you're doing any kind of work like this, you just really, really need to be aware of your surroundings."

Chuck Kraly, KOXM, used to work for KCBPU; he built and maintained the substation that fed the circuit going to the Thomas home: "This is nothing to take chances with. In my almost 30 years as a ham -- and 27 years in the power utility field -- I have seen way too many 'accidents.' Stop and look. If it is close or seems that way -- don't. Find another place. High voltage lines are not forgiving. Your life depends on it. Please follow the warnings. Anywhere close is too close." -- Thanks to Larry Staples, WOAIB, and others who contributed to this story.

♦ NEW 70 CM COORDINATION AGREEMENT REACHED FOR NEW ENGLAND

In the next step of developing a long-term procedure to mitigate interference to the Air Force PAVE PAWS radar site at Cape Cod Air Force Station in Massachusetts, the ARRL has brokered a deal that will allow new coordinations to be considered by the New England Spectrum Management Council (NESMC) on the 70 cm band.

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, has been engaged in discussions with Lou Harris, N1UEC, of NESMC; USAF Colonel Chris Gentry, commander of the Cape Cod PAVE PAWS Radar installation, and Dave

Pooley of Air Force Space Command Headquarters, to craft additional procedures that would allow NESMC to consider new or modified 70 cm repeater applications.

"The plan being put into place will allow NESMC to resume 70 cm coordination while putting into place some checks and procedures which will allow the Air Force to be notified when a new repeater is going on the air within the area around the radar sites," Henderson said. "NESMC continues as the frequency coordinator for amateur repeaters, which is their role."

The ARRL will work with NESMC on Longley-Rice modeling to obtain an estimated signal strength at the radar of the new repeater. Once this occurs, Henderson said the ARRL will "then make a recommendation -- based on our knowledge of current repeater signals -- if the proposed repeater should be at or near limits that that should allow it to operate without interference to the radar."

Henderson added that this is not an exact science: "Some levels of degradation of the radar receiver levels are only detectable by precise testing. The unit of the Air Force that provides that testing only visits the Cape Cod site about once a year. It is possible that a repeater that had been in operation for a while under the new procedures would have to address an interference issue when that future testing is performed."

Calling it "fortunate" to have Harris, Pooley and Skinner involved in the process, Henderson said, that if successful, "The procedures being put into place can serve as a model for addressing the same issues in other situations which might arise, such as the mitigation project around the PAVE PAWS site at Beale Air Force Base in California."

Part of the new agreement includes the ARRL serving as the point of contact for the Air Force if new interference is detected. "The ARRL is providing a mechanism whereby and future interference issues can be immediately addressed and hopefully resolved," said Henderson. "It makes sense to have a 'first step' whereby an amateur is given the opportunity to address concerns before a more formal FCC interaction would have to be considered by the Air Force. This plan hopefully provides that step."

The agreement does not inject the ARRL into a formal role in repeater coordination; the role of the League in the coordination process will be simply to provide the NESMC coordinator with an assessment of the proposed repeater's signal strength, as well as potential for interference at the radar site. "While we do not have the specific receiver sensitivity requirements, Air Force officials have indicated our previous calculations for repeaters already involved are 'in the ball park,'" Henderson stated. "We should be able to provide NESMC with a relatively informed assessment for any new repeater, but the final decision on whether to coordinate a repeater remains in the hands of NESMC."

July 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2008

September 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <i>Pittsburgh 250 Celebration</i> 10-10 Summer Contest, SSB European HF Championship ARRL UHF Contest NA QSO Party, CW
3 <i>Pittsburgh 250 Celebration</i> 10-10 Summer Contest, SSB ARRL UHF Contest NA QSO Party, CW WASH Sun. Net	4 <i>Breezeshooter's Net</i>	5 WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net	6 <i>SCARC Social Nite</i> Alleg Co. ARES Net	7 Skyview 2M Net WACOM Business Meeting	8	9 WAE DX Contest, CW MD/DC QSO Party 2 Rivers ARC Picnic Worked All Europe DX Contest CW
10 WAE DX Contest, CW MD/DC QSO Party WASH Sun. Net Worked All Europe DX Contest CW	11 <i>Breezeshooter's Net</i>	12 WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net	13 <i>SCARC Social Nite</i> Alleg Co. ARES Net NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint NHARC Business Meeting	14 Skyview 2M Net WASH Business Meeting	15	16 SARTG WW RTTY DContest ARRL 10 GHz & Up Contest NA QSO Party, SSB NJ QSO Party
17 SARTG WW RTTY Contest ARRL 10 GHz & Up Contest NA QSO Party, SSB NJ QSO Party WASH Sun. Net	18 <i>Breezeshooter's Net</i> NJ QSO Party	19 <i>SCARC Business Meeting</i> WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net Skyview Social Nite 2 Rivers ARC Business Meeting	20 Alleg Co. ARES Net MOON Contest - CW/Digi/SSB	21 Skyview 2M Net	22	23 Hawaii QSO Party Ohio QSO Party
24 <i>Skyview Hamfest/ WPA Section Convention</i> Hawaii QSO Party Ohio QSO Party WASH Sun. Net	25 <i>Breezeshooter's Net</i>	26 WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net	27 <i>SCARC Social Nite</i> Alleg Co. ARES Net SCARC Social Nite	28 Skyview 2M Net	29	30 <i>Uniontown ARC GabFest</i> WASH Club Breakfast YO HF DX Contest
31 YO HF DX Contest SARL HF CW Contest WASH Sun. Net						

August 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2008

October 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Labor Day</i> Breezeshooter's Net MI-QRP Club Labor Day CW Sprint	2 WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net MI-QRP Club Labor Day CW Sprint ARS Spartan Sprint CW Skyview ARC Business Meeting	3 <i>SCARC Social Nite</i> Alleg Co. ARES Net	4 Skyview 2M Net WACOM Business Meeting	5	6 All Asian DX Contest SSB Russian Radio RTTY WW Contest RSGB SSB Field Day
7 <i>Butler County ARC SwapFest</i> WASH Sun. Net All Asian DX Contest SSB RSGB SSB Field Day Tennessee QSO Party	8 Breezeshooter's Net Tennessee QSO Party	9 WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net	10 <i>SCARC Social Nite</i> Alleg Co. ARES Net NHARC Business Meeting	11 Skyview 2M Net WASH Business Meeting	12 G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest	13 * <i>WAE DX SSB Contest</i> Arkansas QSO Party ARRL September VHF QSO Party South Carolina QSO Party
FISTS Straight Key Week - CW						
14 <i>WAE DX SSB Contest</i> WASH Sun. Net Arkansas QSO Party ARRL September VHF QSO Party South Carolina QSO Party G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest	15 Breezeshooter's Net ARRL September VHF QSO Party	16 <i>SCARC Business Meeting</i> WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net Skyview Social Nite	17 Alleg Co. ARES Net MOON Contest - CW/Digi/SSB	18 Skyview 2M Net YLRL Howdy Days NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	19 YLRL Howdy Days	20 YLRL Howdy Days Colorado QSO Party QCWA QSO Party Feld-Hell Club Sprint 50th Scandinavian Activity Contest CW
21 WASH Sun. Net Colorado QSO Party QCWA QSO Party 50th Scandinavian Activity Contest CW	22 <i>Autumn Begins</i> Breezeshooter's Net Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint	23 WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net	24 <i>SCARC Social Nite</i> Alleg Co. ARES Net SKCC Sprint - CW	25 Skyview 2M Net BCC QSO Party - CW/SSB	26	27 <i>CQ WW RTTY DX Contest</i> WASH Club Breakfast Texas QSO Party
28 <i>CQ WW RTTY DX Contest</i> WASH Sun. Net Texas QSO Party Classic Exchange (CX) - Phone	29 Breezeshooter's Net Classic Exchange (CX) - Phone	30 WACOM 2M Net WACOM 10M Net				

1st Annual BCARA SWAPFEST

UNIONVILLE FIREHALL • BUTLER, PA

SUNDAY • SEPT. 7, 2008 • 8 A.M. to 3 P.M.

SPONSORED BY; THE BUTLER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

\$5.00 DOLLAR DONATION FOR ADMISSION - Children under 12 admitted free
Admission includes 1 prize ticket – Additional tickets available at the Swapfest

FREE PARKING – Tailgating Room for 200 Cars, No RV or Camper parking
available, Handicap Parking is Available

OUTSIDE FLEA MARKET - Free for 1 Vehicle/set-up **TALK-IN: W3UDX 147.36+**

INDOOR FLEA MARKET - Vendor's Space \$15.00 per Table
To Reserve Indoor Tables Contact:

Swapfest Coordinator: Dave Zibrat W3VXT, 105 Seminole Trail, Butler PA 16001
(724) 282-9077 or e-mail dzibrat@zoominternet.net

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS - As Always - Real Good Food at Good Prices (NO Individual Sales Permitted)

PRIZES - Drawn at 3:00 PM - **PRESENCE NOT REQUIRED**

- 1st - Prize Yaesu FT-1802M 2m Single Band Mobile
- 2nd - Prize Yaesu VX-150 Ultra Rugged 2m Single Band HT
- 3rd - Prize Icom IC-V8 2m Single Band HT

Yaesu and Icom prizes from vendor KJI Electronics

50/50 Raffle Tickets Available

Overnight Accommodations Available at:

Days Inn Motel	139 Pittsburgh Rd. Butler, PA 16001	Ph: (724) 287-6761
Super 8 Motel	128 Pittsburgh Rd. Butler, PA 16001	Ph: (724) 287-8888
McKees Motel	930 New Castle Rd. Butler, PA 16001	Ph: (724) 865-2272
Michael's Motel	970 New Castle Rd. Butler, PA 16001	Ph: (724) 865-9564

Club President Rich Deal, WB3BFC, 110 Portman Road, Butler, PA 16002 (724) 712-3770

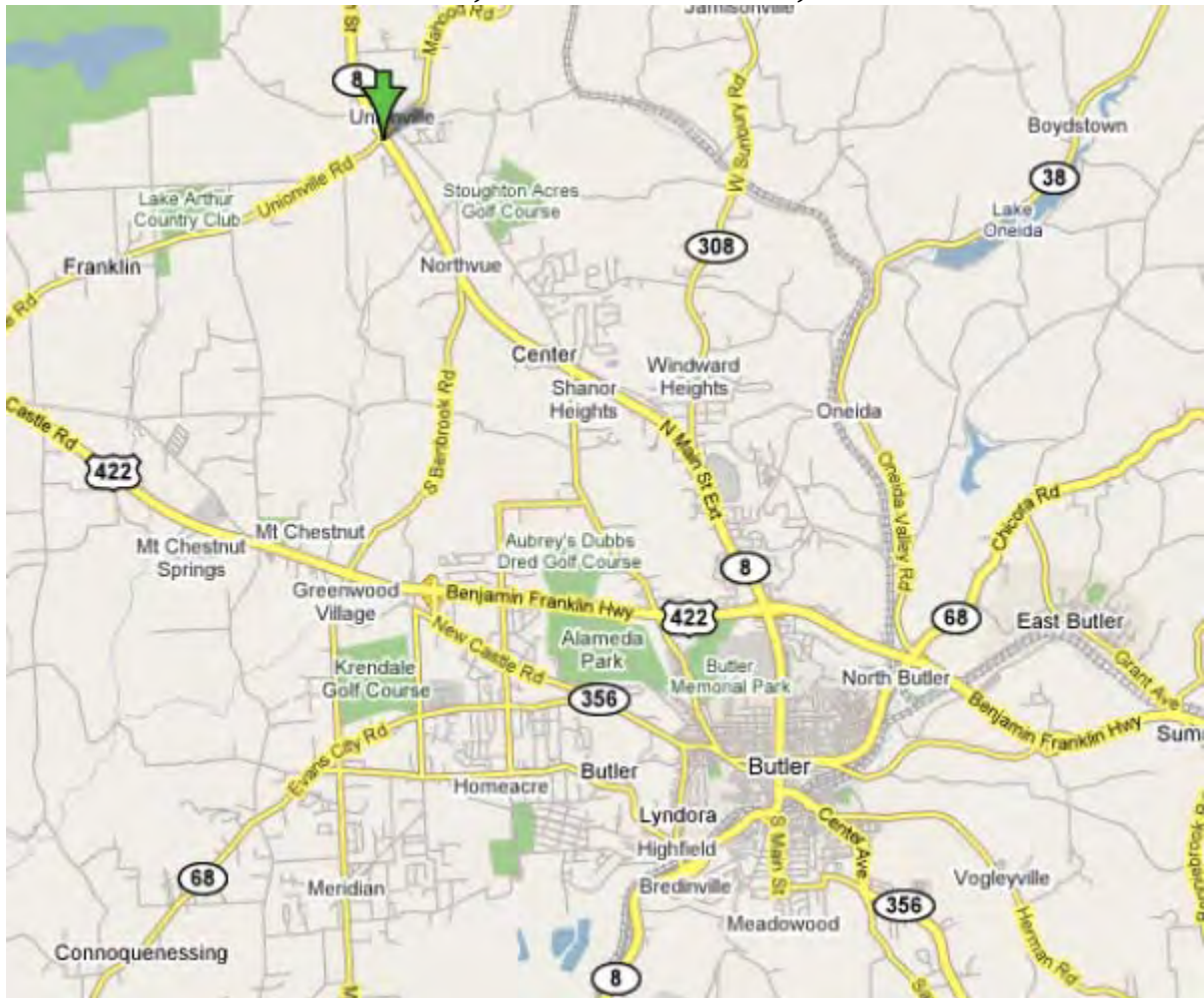
W3UDX 147.36+ FOR DIRECTIONS

MOBILE CHECK-IN TILL NOON - 146.52 Simplex

MOBILE CHECK-IN PRIZE

BCARA SWAPFEST LOCATION

Unionville Firehall, 2193 N Main St Butler, PA 16001



BUTLER CO. AMATEUR RADIO HAMFEST
P.O. BOX 1787
BUTLER, PA 16003-1787



The Steel City Amateur Radio Club
(412) 787-0777

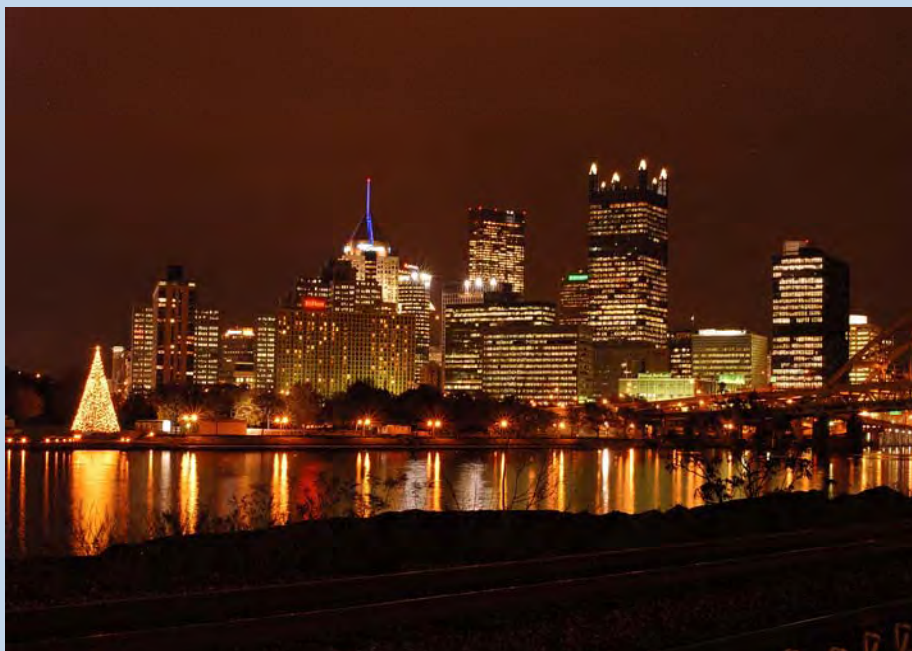
2M Repeater:
147.030/147.630MHz (PL 123.0)

70cm Repeater:
444.450/449.450MHz (PL 103.5)

WA3TTS Beacon: 144.300MHz
(CW)

ATV Repeater: 426.250MHz
(Currently off-line. Contact AA3EE
for more info.)

1296MHz Beacon: 1296.269MHz
(CW) 1W



We're on the web!

www.w3kwh.com

The Steel City Amateur Radio
Club is an ARRL-Affiliated
organization



Celebrating the 250th anniversary of the City of
Pittsburgh. That's a picture of the Golden Triangle on
light-up night 2007, taken by Ye Olde Editor. More in-
side on 'Pittsburgh 250'. Check out page 18.

Steel City Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 281
Carnegie, Pennsylvania 15106
Phone 412-787-0777
Editor: Greg Babin, KQ3DX
KQ3DX@hotmail.com
www.w3kwh.com



AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

Name: _____ Call Sign:: _____

Address: _____
Street City State

Telephone (Home) _____ (Work): _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____
Name Relationship Telephone No.

License Class: _____ Equipment: _____

Amateur Radio Interests: _____
(Example: Contesting, Public Service,, Skywarn)

Would you be an Event Coordinator, Asst. Coordinator, Net Control _____

Club Affiliations _____

RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICE

Name: _____ Call Sign:: _____

Address: _____
Street City State

Telephone (Home) _____ (Work): _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____
Name Relationship Telephone No.

License Class: _____ Equipment: _____

Location from Downtown (Home) _____ (Work) _____
(N, S, E, W) (N, S, E, W)

Would you be available weekdays?, Evenings? Weekends? _____

COMPLETE THE TOP AND BOTTOM PORTIONS OF THIS FORM AND SEND IT TO:
KATHY KING, 17 BELTZHOOVER AVENUE, PITTSBURGH, PA. 15210