

the Milliwatt



The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O.Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

May, 2008

BRATS MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR 2008-2009

As you may know, The BRATS meet at the Pikesville Library (1301 Reisterstown Rd) on the third Thursday of each month -- The Library s Meeting Room year is from July through the following June. There are still 2 meeting remaining until this year is up: May 20 at Randallstown Library (8604 Liberty Rd) , and June 17 at Pikesville. Our new library meeting year is as follows. Mark your calendars and please plan to join us:
2008 : July 15, August 19, Sept. 16, October 21, November 18 and December 16.
2009: January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, and June 16 ...

MARYLAND HAMFEST

AND

COMPUTER FEST

SPONSORED BY
THE BALTIMORE RADIO AMATEUR TELEVISION SOCIETY

SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2008

HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, OFF I-70 at RT. 32

Grounds open for Tailgating at 6:00am

ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED
KIDS UNDER 12 FREE

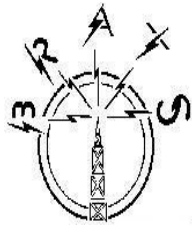
FREE VE EXAMS at 9:00 AM ONLY, CHECK IN at 8:30 AM
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

To register call 301-572-5124 between 6 PM and 9 PM, or email crewb3gxw@aol.com

For information contact:

BRATS / PO Box 5915 / Baltimore, MD 21282 -- 410-461-1212 voice or fax

<http://www.bratsatv.org> -- email brats@bratsatv.org



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The award-winning monthly publication
of The BRATS.

Items herein may be reprinted with credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

Some Thoughts

Yes, it's that time again! Hamfest time is here. We need your help, not only on July 20, but now! Here's how you can help: Call the BRATS info-line at 410-461-1212 and leave a message. Say "I want to help with the hamfest". Let us know when you will be available, on July 19, 20 and 21 as well as now ... We will get back to you. We can only pull it off if you help.

Thanks and 73, Mayer, W3GXX

The Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society, Inc. P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and a non-profit corporation in the State of Maryland. We belong to and support the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

home page: <http://www.bratsatv.org>

e-mail: brats@bratsatv.org

InfoLine: 410- 461-1212

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, 7:15 PM, Pikesville Library, 1301 Reisterstown Rd., Pikesville, MD.

President: Ed Rosen, N3GXH

Vice Pres: Edward Koritzer, N3DGY

Secretary: Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX

Treasurer: Les McClure, W3GXT

Webmaster: Laura F, KB3LJM

Chairman of the Board: Heru Walmsley, W3WVV

Vice Chairman, Technical: Mike Dees, N3EZZ

Vice Chairman, Operations: Ian Millet, N3CVA

BRATS Repeaters

BRATS Linked Repeater System:

WB3DZO: 147.03+, 224.96-, 448.325-

BRATS Stand-alone repeaters:

443.350+

BRATS Packet Network Nodes

W3GXT-5 145.05

W3GXT-10 224.52

BRATS ATV Repeater System:

W3WCQ: inputs: 426.25, 1253.25

outputs: 439.25, 911.25

BRATS Weekly Nets

Mon 9 pm Traffic and Info Net, W3GXX

Tues 11:45 Informal ATV Net, W3WVV

Tues 9 pm BRATS Horsetraders Net, Grant, KA3CEA

Wed 9 pm CATS ATV Net

Thurs 9 pm BRATS ATV Net

Sat 1 pm Weekly News Bulletin, W3GXX

Sat 1:20 The BRATS Answer Men: KB3JQQ

Sun 8 pm MATS ATV Net

As needed Weather/Emergency Net, Skywarn

BRATS Board of Directors

Through 12/09:

KA3IDB, KB3FIF, K0RYX

Through 12/08:

W3ZQI, KB3LJM, K2GZY

Regular BRATS Meetings

3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:15 PM

Pikesville Library, 1301 Reisterstown Rd

Next BRATS Meetings

Tuesday, May 20, 7:15 PM

at the Randallstown Library

Liberty Road & Old Court Rd

Tuesday, June 17, Pikesville Library

1301 Reisterstown Road, Pikesville

William F. Buckley Meets Amateur Radio

In a personal essay published in the April 2008 issue of The National Review, the late William F. Buckley Jr described a fascinating story involving himself, Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA (SK), and of course ham radio. It seems that Mr Buckley was part of a 12 man trip to a very remote outpost at the South Pole. In addition to his son, his old pal Barry Goldwater and Barry Jr were also members of this expedition. Buckley described being in a crowded Soviet igloo, entertained with trays of caviar and tumblers of vodka. After toasting his Russian host, he was suddenly taken aside by Barry Jr. Dad wants to see you he said, pointing to the door. Buckley was taken to another igloo, apparently the radio shack. Thought you might like to talk to your wife, the senior Goldwater said. Buckley describes the prideful look on Goldwater's face, having maneuvered the Soviet radio to contact his wife back home in Arizona! Although he was a man famous for his complete control of the English language, Bill Buckley said he was speechless as he heard the telephone ringing and his wife answering the telephone! He said, It's me darling and his wife responded, It's three o'clock in the morning! Buckley exclaimed, I'm calling from the South Pole! This story reminded me of the many nights back in the late 1970s when I gladly helped with phone patches from the US Navy base at McMurdo, Antarctica. Just as Senator Goldwater did, I awakened many people in the wee hours of the morning with a phone call from their loved ones on the bottom of the world! *Bruce Jackson, KA5ELC, Cordova, Tennessee*

2010 Olympics seeks amateur radio volunteers

The Vancouver Olympics Committee (VANOC) has given Radio Amateurs of Canada details of their search for ham radio volunteers to assist during the Olympic Winter Games (Feb. 12-28, 2010) and Paralympic Winter Games (March 12-21, 2010). Volunteers must have their own local accommodation in Greater Vancouver or Whistler areas.

Listen to GB2RS on your iPod

The GB2RS news service is now available as a podcast. To access our podcast, you will need the latest iTunes software from Apple. This software can be downloaded for free from the Apple website (www.apple.com/uk/) and works with both PC and Macintosh computers. Once you have downloaded and installed iTunes, you will need to set up the software to download the latest GB2RS news in MP3 format. You can do this by clicking on the Advanced menu option and then selecting Subscribe to Podcast . You will then have to enter a special web address into the box that pops up. The address is: [www.rsgb.org.uk/rss/gb2rs_rss.xml]. The latest issue of GB2RS should now automatically download when it is available. The GB2RS MP3 file will also be copied to your iPod or other MP3 player when you connect it to your computer. Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, kindly provides the GB2RS mp3 files. You can download these directly from his site at: <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/g4njh2/rsgb.html>

Motorola To Split Into Two Companies

Motorola Inc. on Wednesday said its board of directors OK'd a plan to break the conglomerate into two independent, publicly-traded companies. One company will focus on its mobile devices business, and the other will specialize in broadband and mobility solutions. Based on current plans, the creation of the two stand-alone businesses is expected to take the form of a tax-free distribution to Motorola's shareholders, subject to further financial, tax and legal analysis.

Our decision to separate our Mobile Devices and Broadband & Mobility Solutions businesses follows a review process undertaken by our management team and Board of Directors, together with independent advisors, said Greg Brown, Motorola's president and chief executive officer. Creating two industry-leading companies will provide improved flexibility, more tailored capital structures, and increased management focus - as well as more targeted investment opportunities for our shareholders.

Iowa airport offers free phone calls

From USA TODAY's [Airport Check-in](#) column: Last fall, [Iowa's Sioux Gateway Airport](#) gave up trying to jettison the SUX airport identifier code and embraced it. T-shirts, caps and, now, coffee mugs, luggage tags and bumper stickers sport the Fly SUX slogan. There was even a Valentine's Day Luv SUX T-shirt. People have been buying this stuff online, at a downtown store and at the gift shop in the airport, says airport director Rick McElroy, who adds that the airport allows 30 minutes of free parking to accommodate shoppers. Now, the airport has removed all seven of its leased payphones and replaced them with four phones that let callers make free local and toll-free calls. No one was really using the pay phones anyway, McElroy says. These days, most people use their cellphones. But now people are using the free phones for local calls instead of burning up their cell minutes.

BWI latest to embrace artificial turf

[Baltimore/Washington](#) is the latest airport to embrace the new landscaping trend of installing artificial turf on the tarmac. It's ideal for unpaved areas on the tarmac because foreign debris in dirt and soil near runways can be safety hazards, says Joe Dobson of AvTurf. Airports have typically grown natural grass in these areas, but grass can be difficult and expensive to maintain and attract unwanted animals and birds. In addition, AstroTurf is being used to replace the green paint or yellow X signs used to help pilots distinguish decommissioned taxiways. Painted asphalt can be hard to see at night for pilots, especially if paint fades, says Dobson. Among airports that have recently laid down artificial turf: New York's John F. Kennedy, Atlanta, Detroit, Toronto, Chicago O'Hare, Chicago Midway and Boston.

'First significant change to the checkpoint since the 1970s'

From [USA TODAY](#): "The Transportation Security Administration hopes to create a kinder, gentler screening process and will test it soon at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. Other U.S. airports could see it later this year. 'This is the first significant change to the checkpoint since the 1970s,' TSA chief Kip Hawley said. The checkpoint to be tested in May at one terminal in Baltimore is based on a simple premise: serenity adds security. Mauve lights glow softly, soothing music hums, and smiling employees offer quiet greetings and assistance. 'A chaotic, noisy, congested checkpoint is a security nightmare. Chaos gives camouflage,' Hawley said. 'A chaotic environment puts subtle pressure on (screeners) to rush the job.'

Bad news for fliers against allowing cellphones in flight at least on the other side of the Atlantic.

The Associated Press writes "the European Union on Monday opened the way for air travelers to use mobile phones to talk, text or send e-mails on planes throughout Europe's airspace. Midair service may be available as soon as this year on some airlines for passengers using European GSM technology. The United States and many other countries bar mobile devices in the air because of concern they could disrupt a plane's instruments." Still, AP notes that "a host of issues remain, from the cost of mid-flight phone service, to backlash from those who dread the thought of being trapped for hours listening to one-sided conversations."

Belgian Satellite to Feature D-STAR Technology

Students at the [Université de Liège](#) in Belgium have built [OUFTI-1](#), a new Amateur Radio CubeSat featuring D-STAR digital-communication protocol that is used for control and telemetry. Amateur Radio operators from all over the world are able to listen in on [ON0ULG](#) on [70 cm](#); 2 meters will be operational soon. The objective of this nanosatellite project is to provide hands-on experience to students in the design, construction and control of complete satellite systems, ultimately serving as the basis for a variety of space experiments. The first satellite in the series, OUFTI-1, is a CubeSat -- a 10x10x10 cm cube weighing in at no more than one kilogram. -- *Information provided by the OUFTI Team*

Satellite Shorts From All Over

- AMSAT Field Day rules have been uploaded to: <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/awards/amsatfd.php> They will appear in the next issue of the AMSAT Journal. Field Day will be June 28/29, 2008. Start preparing your Field Day stations and offer assistance to local clubs in assembling a station and instruct them in the best ways to operate the satellites.
- We are moving the AMSAT Store to our own server in the AMSAT Office to give us more control over its operation. Rick Hambly, W2GPS and Dan Briner, AB3EN are working on getting the server, getting additional high speed lines into the office and getting the server software operational and tested. Martha will be back in the office on Wednesday March 25 to take any orders. We are looking at interim store solutions until our own AMSAT Store is operational in a few weeks.
- AMSAT at the 2008 Dayton Hamvention! We are looking forward to participating in the 2008 Dayton Hamvention. We will be in our regular location right across from the ARRL area, plus we will have an additional booth space. We have a great lineup of speakers for the Saturday morning forum, final list to be released very soon. Bob McGwier, N4HY and his engineering team have promised us a great many new pieces of operational satellite hardware. Bob Davis, KF4KSS is building a full size Eagle space frame that will be at Dayton. An operational SDX that will be used in both SuitSat-2 and the HASP (High Altitude Student Platform) balloon project this summer. We are also looking at a terrestrial deployment of this transponder. We will also have a well equipped satellite demonstration area right outside the Ball Arena entrance operating all the amateur satellites passes Friday through Sunday. The AMSAT/TAPR Banquet will be Friday night at the Kohler Banquet Center. Menu and reservation information will be available in the next week or two. More information to follow.
- Paul, VP9MU has released a general c/c++ astrodynamics library which includes basic astronomy routines. Next up will be the orbit propagators, and tracking routines. See: <http://homepage.mac.com/pclwillmott/GAL/index.html>
- Ben, N1WBV has released a guide focusing on etiquette and operational guidelines for single-channel FM satellites:
PDF (35K) http://www.innismir.net/etc/CourteousAO51_v1.1.pdf
DOC (38K) http://www.innismir.net/etc/CourteousAO51_v1.1.doc
- The 34th Annual Eastern VHF-UHF Conference and Dinner Banquet will be held on April 18, 19 & 20th, 2008 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Enfield, CT. Please see the site for further information: <http://www.newsvhf.com/vhfconf.html>
- Clint, K6LCS invites readers to download and print out his 4-page tutorial, "Working Ham Sats with Your HT". If you have a print utility that makes brochures, you can get it all on one page, duplex printing. See: <http://homepage.mac.com/clintbradford/FileSharing1.html>

[AMSAT]

AMSAT Notes Passing of Arthur C. Clarke

This week marked the passing of Arthur C. Clarke, author of more than 100 published books in which he foresaw the future of technology, promoted the possibilities of human innovation and exploration and combined these with the ability to explain these to non-scientific readers. The most famous example is from 1945, when he first proposed the idea of communications satellites that could be based in geostationary orbits, which keep satellites in a fixed position relative to the ground. Tom Clark, K3IO recalled, "You might be interested in knowing that Arthur was an AMSAT Life Member. His member number, quite fittingly, was LM-2001." Tom continued, "In the 1970's and 80's, Arthur was a frequent visitor to NASA. He was listed in the Goddard phone directory as a consultant in the LANDSAT group, and he also served as a consultant at NASA HQ. In the early 1980's (when I was AMSAT President), on a trip to Washington, Dick Daniels(W4PUJ), Jan King (W3GEY) and I made the presentation of honorary AMSAT LM-2001 to Arthur. He was most appreciative and spent a couple of hours talking with us about our being the "Wright Brothers" of the satellite world, building satellites in our basements and garages." Arthur communicated with us several times in the years following that visit. He asked that his LM-2001 Journal subscription be sent in his name to a library in Sri Lanka. [AMSAT]

New Editions of The ARRL Repeater Directory Now Shipping

With more than 20,000 listings for VHF/UHF repeaters across the US and Canada, *The ARRL Repeater Directory 2008-2009* is a must have. Once again, the ARRL is offering two sizes of the *Repeater Directory* pocket size and desktop. This year, not only is the pocket-sized *Repeater Directory* a half-inch larger than previous editions, it boasts a larger font size, making for easier reading. For the first time ever, this year's editions feature handy indexing tabs on the cover, easier to read listings and a Key to Repeater Notes located right up front in the *Directory*. Along with these new features, both editions have the features you know and enjoy from prior years: Repeater operating practices, repeater lingo and hints for newly licensed hams; Frequency Coordinator contact information; listings for D-Star and APCO 25 repeaters; a guide to using CTCSS tones and Digital Coded Squelch (DCS); VHF/UHF band plans and a 2 meter channel-spacing map; IRLP (Internet linked) nodes; tips for handling interference; listings for IRLP, WIRES-II and EchoLink (Internet linked) nodes; emergency message handling procedures, and a transceiver memory log. Order your copy of *The ARRL Repeater Directory 2008-2009* today at the [ARRL Online Store](#).

ARRL VE Manual Now Available

The [ARRL VEC](#) leads the way when it comes to licensing amateurs, thanks to the excellent work of thousands of volunteer examiners who give so generously of their time, energy and skill. Whether you have ever thought about [becoming a Volunteer Examiner](#) or you are a seasoned VE, the [ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiner Manual](#) is the complete guide to the ARRL Volunteer Examiner program. Packed with everything new and experienced ARRL VEs need to know, this book is loaded with information, including chapters on becoming a Volunteer Examiner, the Volunteer Examiner Team, preparing for the test session, Form 605; conducting the test session, session report and returning documents, FCC Part 97 Rules and more. [Order](#) your copy today.

Annual Armed Forces Day Crossband Test Scheduled for May

The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual Military/Amateur Radio Crossband Communications Test in celebration of the 58th anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD). Although the actual Armed Forces Day is celebrated on the third Saturday in May -- May 17 in 2008 -- the AFD Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will be conducted on May 10 to prevent conflict with the Dayton Hamvention®, scheduled for May 16-18.

ARRL to Discontinue Web Classifieds

As of April 30, ARRL will cease listing classified ads in [Radios On-Line](#), the classified ad section on the ARRL Web site. According to ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, the ARRL has experienced an increased number of complaints by members and users regarding postings and practices that do not conform to the Radios On-Line Web site's original intent: "Despite our efforts to monitor the site regularly, these problems persist. These have included postings for guns and 'personal' ads. Our staff that administers this service has deleted items and notified the 'poster,' only to find the ad back two days later, placed in every category. We are spending a disproportionate amount of staff time dealing with this matter; it is no longer worth the cost of maintaining the service when other online services have been established to handle the specific need for online person-to-person sales."

Ability to use cellphones in flight gets closer in Europe

European regulators have dropped the ban on in-flight cellphone calls, but passengers' ability to chat will depend on which airline they fly. European Union regulators on Monday loosened the rules on cellphone service, a satellite-based technology that can be turned on by a captain at about 10,000 feet. It also can be turned off at any time.

The ban remains in place in the United States, so U.S. airlines aren't affected.

Air France last week became the first international airline to offer mobile service as part of a six-month test to gauge customer response.

Other carriers, however, are shying away from the feature, saying that passengers don't want chatter and ring tones invading their space.

"People don't really want this," says Martin Riecken, spokesman for Germany-based Lufthansa.

Of the two major customer surveys that Lufthansa conducted in 2006, both revealed an overwhelming desire for chatter-free flights, he says.

Many people consider the cabin their last refuge from cellphones, especially on long flights, and they want it to stay that way, he says.

For now, Lufthansa hopes to revive in-flight Internet service to let passengers check e-mail and surf the Web.

The service vanished when the Boeing-owned provider, Connexion, went out of business in late 2006.

Virgin Atlantic is also interested in offering data-only service, believing that most people want to check e-mail on their BlackBerry or other mobile devices rather than talk on their phones, says Lauren Verrusio, an airline spokeswoman.

Deciding whether to offer the service rests in the hands of the airlines within the 27-country EU.

British Airways is in the early stages of researching cellphone use, says Michele Kropf, an airline spokeswoman.

"We've done some preliminary surveying of passengers," she says. "What they feel about it is key in our decision."

On April 2, Air France began allowing voice calls on 123-passenger Airbus A318 flights after a three-month test of data calls since December. The technology allows up to 12 cellphone calls to be made simultaneously.

Air France plans to complete testing of both data-only and voice cellphone calls in mid-June and will make a decision sometime afterward, says Marina Tymen, a spokeswoman for Air France.

So far, the data-only calls have been popular with passengers, but they're still measuring cellphone calls, she says.

Most people make short calls, and they're surprisingly polite, she says.

"Contrary to what everybody thinks, when you are on the airplane, you are whispering. You are not yelling," she says. "They are putting their hand on their mouth, and they're just saying, 'Guess where I'm calling you from,' or 'Don't forget to buy the bread.' They are not telling them about the movie they saw on TV."

Passengers typically find out that they'll be able to turn on their cellphone and use it to talk to someone on the ground only at cruising altitude, when they're seated and the cabin crew makes a special announcement, Tymen says.

Each time, she says, passengers are surprised. "They make curious faces because they're not sure they understand," Tymen says.

2008 ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference Issues Call for Papers

Technical papers are solicited for presentation at the 27th annual ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC), Friday-Sunday, September 26-28, in Chicago, Illinois. Papers will also be published in the *Conference Proceedings*. Authors do *not* need to attend the conference to have their papers included in the *Proceedings*. The submission deadline is July 31. The ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference is an international forum for technically minded radio amateurs to meet and present new ideas and techniques. Paper/presentation topic areas include *but are not limited to* software defined radio (SDR), digital voice, digital satellite communication, digital signal processing (DSP), HF digital modes, adapting IEEE 802.11 systems for Amateur Radio, Global Positioning System (GPS), Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS), *Linux* in Amateur Radio, AX.25 updates and Internet operability with Amateur Radio networks. Submit papers to Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 or via [e-mail](mailto:maty@arrl.org). Papers will be published exactly as submitted, and authors will retain all rights. ARRL will provide additional information on the 2008 DCC as it becomes available.

FCC Fines Colorado Company for Selling Non-Certified CB Transceivers

On Friday, March 21, the FCC released a Forfeiture Order in the amount of \$7000 to CB Shop and More in Loveland, Colorado for willful and repeated violations of Section 302(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Act), and Section 2.803(a)(1) of the Commission's Rules. According to the FCC, CB Shop and More was selling a non-certified Citizens Band (CB) transceiver.

DXCC Working on 2008 Applications; St Barts Added to DXCC List

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that DXCC has completed processing applications for 2007. As such, St Barthelemy (**FJ**) has been added to the DXCC computer system and Logbook of The World (**LoTW**). With the addition, this moves the #1 Honor Roll position to 338 current entities; operators now need 329 entities to qualify for Honor Roll. "While DXCC has completed applications for 2007, there are a number of application returns still being mailed, so it may be another 2-3 weeks before applicants receive their 2007 return," Moore said. "LoTW is now accepting certificate requests for St Barthelemy; once those logs are submitted, the matches should occur and applicants can claim DXCC credit." For programmers who use the DXCC entity numbering system, the entity code for St Barthelemy is 516.

Amateurs in Bosnia-Herzegovina using new E7 call signs

On 21 March amateurs in Bosnia-Herzegovina began using their new E7 call signs. We understand that at present E7+two and E7+three call signs have been issued. From 14 April the country's communications regulator starts accepting applications for single letter calls. These should start being issued in May. E7 call signs replace the T9 series following an ITU decision announced on 8 August last year. A reminder that there will be an RSGB Train the Trainers session in Crawley on Saturday 26

GB3SSS switched off on 3597 KHz, Remains on 144.406

The Poldhu 3597kHz beacon, GB3SSS, has now ceased operating. Reception at St. John's, Newfoundland, has been continuously monitored by Joe, VO1NA, and results will be analysed in the near future. The 2m beacon, GB3SSS, on 144.406MHz, continues to operate and is currently beaming towards the Caribbean. [GB2RS]

Scottish team make UK's first 3cm FM voice repeater

The first 10GHz FM voice repeater in the United Kingdom came on the air on 14 March. GB3TC, co-sited with GB3CS in Lanarkshire, is operated and funded by local radio amateurs with support from the Central Scotland FM Group and its technical team. The repeater operates on a channel pair of 10371.1MHz in and 10471.1MHz out and requires a 103.5Hz sub audible or 1750Hz burst access tone. It transmits an FM beacon giving its call and locator every 60 seconds when not repeating. More information from <http://www.csfm.com> [GB2RS]

HF with FFT-TV From: http://www.southgatearc.org/news/march2008/fft_tv.htm

I received an email a very interesting email from WA6NUT. I had never heard of FFT-TV until he brought it up. Here is his email:

Hello Bryon, N6IFU,

Congratulations on your ATV Newsletter (I look forward to each issue). And your Everything you Wanted to Know book on ATV is very helpful, too. Some of your readers, like myself, may live in rural areas where UHF ATV isn't possible (My QTH is in a valley at 8,000 ft. elevation in the Rockies). Fortunately for us, Con Wassilieff, ZL2AFP, has developed soundcard software, called FFT-TV, for full-color video over HF. The frame rate is only 1 FPS (or less), but AVI clips can be sent and received over HF for playback at 10 FPS (giving smooth motion). The frame rate for live video can be increased by post-processing with frame interpolation software. Hardware requirements are the same as for SSTV. For more information and downloads, try these links:

ZL2AFP's page: <http://www.qsl.net/zl1bpu/ZL2AFP/>

ZL1WTT's page: <http://www.qsl.net/zl1wtt/nbtv.htm>

WA6NUT's page: <http://www.hamsdr.com/personaldirectory.aspx?did=1139>

See you on HF with FFT-TV!

73, Rick, WA6NUT

Buena Vista, Colorado

If you are interested in experimenting with FFT-TV you should contact WA6NUT at wa6nut@arrl.net.

If you wish to subscribe to the ATV Newsletter, send me an email I will add you to my mailing list. The newsletter is FREE.

atv-newsletter@hotmail.com

See you all on ATV,

Bryon Foster, N6IFU

Editor and Publisher of the ATV Newsletter

(ATV Newsletter via e-ham.net)

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

April 26-27

SP DX RTTY Contest
 Helvetia Contest
 QRP to the Field
 Florida QSO Party
 Nebraska QSO Party

May 3

Microwave Spring Sprint
 US IPARC Contest, CW

May 3-4

MARAC QSO Party, SSB
 MARAC QSO Party, CW
 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW
 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital
 7th Call area QSO Party
 Portuguese Navy Day Contest
 Indiana QSO Party
 New England QSO Party
 ARI International DX Contest

May 4

US IPARC Contest, SSB

May 9-10

Nevada Mustang Roundup

May 10

FISTS Spring Sprint

May 10-11

CQ-M International DX Contest
 Volta WW RTTY Contest
 Mid-Atlantic QSO Party
 50 MHz Spring Sprint

May 17-18

His Majes. King of Spain, CW
 EU PSK DX Contest
 Manchester Mineira CW

May 19

Run for the Bacon Contest

May 24-25

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW

May 25-26

MI Memorial Day QRP CW J

June 7-8

10-10 Open Season PSK Contest
 SEANET Contest
 Alabama QSO Party

(Thanks, WA7BNM)

The FCC Wants You!

The Federal Communications Commission says it is seeking applications from engineering school graduates with superior academic credentials and an interest in communications engineering for its 2008 Engineer-in-Training Program. Additional information is available on the FCC's EIT Program page at <http://www.fcc.gov/EITprogram>

ARRL DX Bulletin

CROATIA, 9A.

Members from the Varazdin Radioclub are QRV as 9A60A until December 2008 in celebration of the club's 60 years. Activity is on all bands. This includes entries in several upcoming contests. QSL via 9A7A.

NEPAL, 9N.

Stig, LA7JO is QRV as 9N7JO until June 30. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL direct to his Thailand address.

QATAR, A7.

Bill, NM7H is QRV as A7/G0MKT until the middle of June. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters using mostly CW with some SSB and PSK. QSL to home call.

IRAN, EP.

Sadegh, EP3HF has been active on 15 meters around 0900z and 20 meters around 1530z. QSL direct.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1.

Masafumi, JD1BMM has been active on 17 meters between 2100 and 2300z. QSL to home call.

WAKE ISLAND, KH9.

Colin, WA2YUN is QRV as WA2YUN/KH9 and is here probably until the end of 2009. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters. QSL via K2PF.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2.

David, P29GQ is usually active on the ANZANet between 0500 to 0600z on weekends. QSL to home call.

FRANZ JOSEF LAND, R1FJ.

Station R1FJT is QRV from the Krenkel Polar station on Heyss Island. Activity is on 80 to 17 meters using CW. QSL via UA4RC.

OPERATION APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT.

The following operation is approved for DXCC credit: Wake Island, G4GIR/KH9, 2007 operation.

QATAR, A7.

Bill, NM7H will be QRV as A7/G0MKT through the middle of June. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using mainly CW with some SSB and PSK31. QSL to home call.

BAHRAIN, A9.

John, A92HB has been QRV on 17 meters around 1500 to 1700z. QSL via GM6TVR.

IRAN, EP.

Pooyan, EP3PK has been active on 20 meters around 1400. In addition, EP4HR has been active on 17 meters around 1330z. QSL via I2MQP.

DJIBOUTI, J2.

Jean-Claude, J28JA has been QRV on 15 meters around 1230z and then 20 meters around 1730z. QSL via F5JFU.

IRAN, EP.

Hamid, EP4HR has been QRV on 17 meters around 1500 to 1600z. QSL via I2MQP.

WESTERN SAHARA, S0.

Mohamed, S01MZ has been active on 20 meters around 1700z. QSL via EA1BT.

TUVALU, T2.

Udo, DL9HCU is QRV as T20HC. The length of his stay is unknown. He is generally active on 20 meters around 0500 to 0800z and 17 meters around 0800 to 1000z. QSL to home call.

OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT.

The following operations are approved for DXCC credit: Uganda, 5X1NH, 2007 operation; Burundi, 9UXEV, 2008 operation; Saudi Arabia, HZ1PS; Western Sahara, S05A, 2007 operation; and Syria, YK9G, 2008 operation.

Hamfests and Events

Sunday, May 4 - Boonsboro, MD

Antietam Radio Assn Hamfest Washington Co. Ag. Ctr,
7313 Sharpsburg Pike, Boonsboro (Hagerstown), MD.
Karin, KB3GFV, 301-432-2358 (147.09/R)

May 16-18 : Dayton, Ohio

Dayton Hamvention, Hara Arena, (146.94/R)
937-276-6930; e-mail: info@hamvention.org

Sunday, May 25 -- W Friendship, MD

MDFMA Memorial Day Hamfest, Howard County
Fairgrounds, (16/76R) 301-641-5313 evenings.

Sat./Sun. May 30-31: Henrietta, NY

Rochester Hamfest, Atlantic Division Convention, Fair and
Expo Center, 2695 E. Henrietta Rd. (146.88/R PL 110.9)
<http://www.rochesterhamfest.org> Harold, K2HC,
585-424-5260

Sunday, June 8: Manassas, VA

Manassas Hamfest, Prince William Co. Fairgrounds,
(146.97/R) ; Mary Lu, KB4EFP, 703-369-2877. NOTE
NEW DATE: One week later than usual!

Sunday, June 15, Frederick, MD

Fathers Day Hamfest ; Frederick Co. Fairgrounds, 797 E.
Patrick St. at I-70. (147.06/R); Bob, K9CMR; 301-831-5060

Sunday, July 20 - West Friendship, MD

The Famous BRATS Maryland Hamfest and Computer Fest
Howard County Fairgrounds **ONE WEEK EARLIER**
THAN USUAL! 410-461-1212; www.bratsatv.org
147.03/R, 224.96/R, 448.325/R

VE EXAMS

BARC VE EXAMS for 2008

12360 Owings Mills Blvd. Owings Mills Register: 1:30 PM, Exams
begin 2 PM. No one admitted after exams begin
Saturdays: May 3, Jun 7, Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Nov 2, Dec 1.
Sundays: July 6, Oct. 5. n3wke@arrl.net (Thanks, N3YI)

2008 AERO VE EXAMS

Registration at 1 PM, Exams at 1:30.
Fee \$14 (ARRL VEC); All exams at White Marsh Library, 8133
Sandpiper Circle; March 15, May 31, Sept. 27, Nov. 22. Pat Stone,
AC3F, ac3f@juno.com, 410-687-7209

Other Club Exams

2nd Saturday, 1 PM. Davidsonville, by AARC. Register 12 noon.
Bob, AA3RR, 410-437-8193
3rd Saturday, 9 AM. Laurel, by LARC, 384 Main St. John Creel,
WB3GXW, 301-572-5124.
4th Tuesday, 6 PM. Linthicum. At Historical Electronics Museum.
Harold, WB4OGP, 410-757-0493(h); 410-712-6829(w)

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

**Tuesday, May 20th BRATS MEETING IS AT THE
RANDALLSTOWN LIBRARY: 8604 Liberty Rd
(NOT AT PIKESVILLE)**

June and later meetings back at Pikesville. All meetings
begin promptly at 7:15 PM.

FIELD DAY 2008

Saturday/Sunday, June 28-29
BRATS with AERO ARC at Camp Genyara
Contact WA3SWA for further information

How To Protect Your House and Its Contents From Lightning

IEEE Guide for Surge Protection of Equipment Connected to AC Power and Communication Circuits
http://www.lightningsafety.com/nlsi_lhm/IEEE_Guide.pdf

milliwatt swap shop

ads are free and get results!

Send ad to: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915
Baltimore, MD 21282-5915, or email
to w3gzk@verizon.net

ATTENTION: if you do NOT want your ad to run again,
please send me an email to that effect.

Thanks! w3gzk@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Heathkit SB 1000 linear amplifier, \$750 + shipping; 1200 watt transmitter, 3-1000 tube requires 100 watt for 1K output, companion power supply 120V, only 744 hours use, both built by electrical power engineer and in 100% working order, \$2000 plus shipping; HyGain HDR 300A rotator, 25 sq ft wind load and control box \$ 950 + shipping. Kenwood TS-930S xcvr., \$300 + shipping. Contact Joel, W3YZI, at 410-913-9863.

FOR SALE: Special! ICOM BC-110A battery charger , 12vDC 200mA, for ICOM T8A or similar. Used only twice, misplaced, bought a new one. Found it after new one arrived. Cost \$46, make me an offer. Mayer, W3GXK, 410-786-6839 or w3gzk@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Alinco 110 2-mtr. xcvr. \$100. ACI linear for 2 meters, \$20. Heath HM102 power meter w/ antenna selector \$40. Call Jerry, KB3AP, 443-618-0618

FREE! You remove! TV grade 30-35 foot tower in New Market, MD (off I-70). Dennis 410-842-3336.
dennis.kinsel@ngc.com

VTS - VIDEOTAPING SERVICE

Video/DVD duplications, video tape transferred to DVD. One source up to 2 hours, \$30. Standards, conversions. Call VTS toll free at 1-877-891-1002. BRATS member Bob Shapiro, K2MYS <http://www.videotapingservice.com>

JADE COMPUTERS, LLC

1009 Ingleside Ave, Baltimore, MD 21228. Phone 410-719-1246 ; Fax 410-719-9494. Your answer to custom built PC, office and home networking. Reseller for Net Integrity server, cable modem, DSL, webpage design and hosting POS and networking. We do CPR to your CPU. Kid tested, mother approved. Order PC on line: <http://www.jadecomputers.us> email: joed@jadecomputers.us

Antique Radio Repair, Restoration

Eric, WA3TAD, Audio-Visual Service / Retro Radio, 3401 Chestnut Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21211. 410-467-3620; wa3tad@comcast.net

Radio Consignment Shop at Overlea Hobbies

8411 Harford Road, Parkville, 410-665-3622. Home of fine trains, model kits, x-acto, cars, planes, ships, many radios. Yaesu FT101ZD, Kenwood TS 820S, 930S, Heathkit SB-102, National NC-183, more ... Dick, N3JWN, 410-488-2806

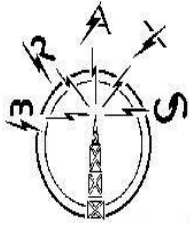
WANTED: AC Gilbert erector sets; old, new, large, small, need not be complete. CASH paid. Lewis, 410-296-4874

WANTED: Your ad for this space. Send copy to w3gzk@verizon.net

QST Contributing Editor H. Ward Silver, N0AX, Named "Amateur of the Year"

[Dayton Hamvention®](http://www.hamvention.com) has named QST Contributing Editor and Author H. Ward Silver, N0AX, as its 2008 Amateur of the Year. Hamvention says Silver's "books and teaching materials have helped many become hams." Tom McDermott, N5EG, will receive Hamvention's Technical Achievement Award to recognize his technical contributions that helped digital ham radio expand. Emery McClendon, KB9IBW, was named the recipient of the Special Achievement Award for starting Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day (ARMAD) in 2003 as a way for Amateur Radio to express support and appreciation for our service men and women. Hamvention announced its award winners today.

[ARRL Web Extra]



the Milliwatt



The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O.Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

May 2008

BRATS PUBLIC SERVICE

- Sunday, May 25
Veterans Run 5K and 10K races. Coordinated by BARC
- Sat/Sun June 7-8
MS Bike Ride Tour de Shore, Salisbury, MD
- Friday, July 4
Towson 4th of July Parade

For more information or to volunteer, email publicservice@bratsatv.org

LOCAL ATV NETS

- Tuesday, 11:45 AM
Informal Net, W3WVV (Audio on 147.03/R)
- Wednesday, 9 PM
CATS Net, rotating Net Control (Audio on 145.43/R)
- Thursday, 9 PM
BRATS Net, Rotating Net Control (Audio on 147.03/R)
- Sunday, 8 PM
MATS Net, KB3LNN Net Control (BRATS ATV and Linked FM Repeaters)

UTAH ATV

Lots of projects and links:
http://www.ussc.com/~uarc/utah_atv/utah_atv.html
(Thanks, Scott, KB3JQQ)

Next BRATS Meeting

Tuesday, May 20, 7:15 PM
Liberty Road & Old Court Rd
Please plan to join us!

Other Radio Club Meetings

QCWA

- Monday at Noon**, Cactus Willie 7315 Ritchie Hwy, Glen Burnie
- 3rd Thursday, 1 PM**: Old Country Buffet, Joppa Road at Satyr Hill
- Last Wednesday, 1 PM**: Denny's Bel Air Rd at Putty Hill

AARC

- 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 PM
Davidsonville Family Rec. Center, Queen Anne Bridge Rd, Wayson Rd (147.105R)

AMRAD

- 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM,
Dolley Madison Library; 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. McLean, VA (147.21/R)

BARC

- 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 PM
12360 Owings Mills Blvd (near warehouse)
Owings Mills, MD (146.67R)

CARA

- 4th Tuesday,
Gateway Center, Rm 401, 6751 Gateway Dr.
Columbia South off Rt 175 (147.135/R)

How Do I Join The BRATS?

I want to become a member, what do I do? Just print out the form below and mail it with your check (Member, \$15; Retired/Disabled/Student, \$10; Family, \$20) to: BRATS, PO Box 5915, Baltimore, MD 21282

BRATS Membership Renewal: Regular=\$15; Retired/Disabled/Student \$10; Family \$20

Name _____

Call Sign

BRATS No

Address _____

City/State/Zip

Phone _____

Email

MAIL TO: BRATS, P.O.Box 5915, Baltimore, MD 21282-5915
