



the Milliwatt



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

August, 2008

US Government Recalls RadioShack Power Supplies

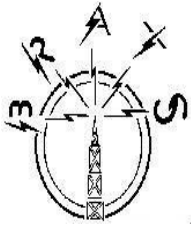
On July 2, the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), in cooperation with RadioShack, announced a voluntary recall of 13.8 V dc power supplies. The CPSC said that consumers should stop using these power supplies immediately, as the power supplies are wired incorrectly, posing electrocution and fire hazards. No injuries have been reported in conjunction with the power supplies that were sold in RadioShack stores nationwide from October 2004-January 2008 for between \$50 and \$85. Manufactured in China, the CPSC said that the recall involves RadioShack 13.8 V DC Power Supplies, catalog numbers 22-507 and 22-508 with date codes from 08A04 through 01A08. Date code format is MMYY where MM is the month and YY is the year. The catalog number and date code are located on the back of the power supply. Power supplies with a green dot on the product and the product's packaging have already been repaired and are not included in the recall. The CPSC recommends for consumers to unplug the recalled power supply immediately and take it to any RadioShack store for a free repair. Registered owners of the recalled power supplies will be mailed a notice. For additional information, contact RadioShack at 800-843-7422 anytime, or visit their Web site.

E-mails Asking for Personal Information Are Not from ARRL

We have received several reports from ARRL members with **arrl.net** e-mail accounts who have recently been contacted via e-mail asking for personal information, such as user names and passwords. Please be assured that these e-mails are fraudulent attempts at "phishing" and did not originate from ARRL. According to ARRL Information Technology Manager Don Durand, "This is a very crude attempt at phishing, using an easily determined spoof of the originating/return address. There is never a time when we would ask via mass e-mail for user names and passwords of arrl.net users. There is simply no need to ever do so." If you receive an e-mail asking for personal information and it looks like it originated from ARRL, please do not respond, just delete it.

Ham Radio in Space: Celebrating 45 Years of Women in Space

In ham radio space related news, word that special event station R45VT is on the air. This, to commemorate the 45th Anniversary of Valentina Vladimirovna Tereshkova becoming the first woman in space. Tereshkova flew to orbit on June 16th 1963 as pilot onboard Vostok 6. Her call sign during the flight was Chaika. She spent 71 hours in space orbiting the Earth 48 times. Since that time women have made a significant contribution to space exploration and many of them have been licenced Radio Amateurs. A few of the many notable women space explorers since Valentina Tereshkova include American Sally Ride and the United Kingdom's Helen Sharman to mention only a few. Sharman was also the first UK woman to be issued a ham radio call for her flight. She operated from the Mir Space Station as GB1MIR And very apropos for this type of commemorative operation. At least one UK ham reports that he recently worked R45VT through the VO-52 amateur radio satellite. (Southgate, via AMSAT)



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The award-winning monthly publication of The BRATS.

Items herein may be reprinted with credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

A Big Thanks!

We would like to thank all of our workers, vendors, general admission people and our tailgaters for making this edition of The Famous BRATS Maryland Hamfest and Computer Fest one of the best yet. Without each of you we could not have done it! Thanks also to our legendary weather committee for their usual fine job! (a little on the hot side, but the rain held off).

Thanks again to all 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

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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 Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 7:15 PM

Pikesville Library

1301 Reisterstown Road, Pikesville

W1AW/KL7 to Operate from Arctic Circle

Just 300 miles south of the Alaskan Arctic Ocean -- where the Arctic Circle crosses the Dalton Highway (66 degrees, 33 minutes north) -- W1AW/KL7 will be on the air (grid square BP56) July 26-August 10 on all bands from 160-6 meters. This ARRL 2008 Alaska State Convention Special Event Station plans to run two HF stations operating CW, SSB and digital, one satellite station and one station devoted to 146.52 MHz. The Alaskan summer skies are ablaze with gray line-enhanced propagation effects, providing six to eight hour spurts of activity to most of the ham radio world. W1AW/KL7 plans to be active from 0600 UTC-1400 UTC to maximize gray line propagation. From Alaska, signals will take off in both directions at the same time: Europe to the East on one side, with Asia to the West on the other side. For an illustration of how Arctic gray line propagation works, see page 21 in the August 2008 issue of *QST*. The 2008 Alaska ARRL Convention will run from August 1-4, 2008 in Anchorage. -- *Information provided by Bill Balzarini, KL7BB*

No passenger falloff at BWI

While airline cuts have passenger traffic on the decline at many U.S. airports, Baltimore/Washington International (BWI) reported its busiest May ever this year. According to the airport, 1,913,777 passengers flew through BWI in May, an increase of 1.8% when compared to the same month a year ago. Southwest was the airport's top carrier in May with 1,008,912 passengers, a 1.5% increase for the carrier from May 2007. AirTran was BWI's fastest-growing airline in May. AirTran's year-over-year passenger count at BWI soared 27.5% to 270,984. BWI says it has had 21.4 million passengers during the last 12 months it has statistics for, making that the busiest 12-month period in its history.

Kansas Ham, Son, Electrocuted While Erecting Antennas

While putting up backyard antennas on the afternoon of Sunday, July 13, Edward Thomas, KC0TIG, of Kansas City, Kansas, and his son were electrocuted. The elder Thomas, 65, was pronounced dead at the scene. His son, 27, was rushed to the hospital but died later that day. Initial reports suggest that the antenna they were installing came in contact with 7620 V power lines. Neighbors reported a "loud popping sound" and the electricity went out on the block.

Eye movements could replace tactile electronics controls

Rolling your eyes to turn up the volume of a portable music player and tapping your fingers to turn on a DVD player are among technologies Japan's top mobile carrier is testing for wearable gadgets. In one version, sensors and chips inside headphones detect electrical current produced by movements of the wearer's eyeballs, says Masaaki Fukumoto, executive research engineer at NTT DoCoMo. We are working on a cellphone of the future, he said at a suburban Tokyo research center. NTT DoCoMo believes wearable control technology will be adapted for mobile devices that download music, play video games and allow users to shop online and keep up with their e-mail. In a demonstration Tuesday for The Associated Press, researcher Hiroyuki Manabe wore a giant headset covered with wires to show how computer graphic lines in a monitor connected to the headset darted wildly whenever his eyes moved. He turned up the volume on a digital music player by rolling his eyes, and he jerked his eyes twice to the right to fast forward. The new technology may also enable cellphone cameras to read bar codes used in Japan to get product information, download music and coupons when the user simply looks at the codes, researchers said. Fukumoto showed a wearable cellphone shaped like a ring about the size of a ping pong ball. When a wearer sticks his fingers in his ears, the sound travels as vibrations through his bones and into his ears, where it is heard as sound again. Another iteration of the technology appears in a wristwatch that can detect the wearer's thumb and forefinger tapping together to work as a remote controller for such gadgets as a DVD player. The days when wearable technology looks like fancy cumbersome space-suits are over. The latest look is everyday and inconspicuous, blending into the routine, Fukumoto said. Japanese don't like to stand out, he said. But when such technology will become real products, if ever, is still unknown, he said.

AA begins in-flight Wi-Fi testing

In-flight wireless access is taking another step forward. *PC World* writes that American on Wednesday "flew the first commercial jet with in-flight broadband enabled since the shutdown of Connexion by Boeing in 2006. American's Boeing 767-200 was to make a routine, scheduled round-trip from JFK to Los Angeles International (LAX) on Wednesday On the maiden test flights, service was free." AA hopes to roll out the Wi-Fi access to all 15 of its Boeing 767-200 jets "in a few weeks," *PC World* writes.

The Times of London writes AA's Wi-Fi system - dubbed gogo - "will give passengers access to e-mail, the Internet and VPN services through any wi-fi-enabled device when the aircraft is above an altitude of 10,000 feet. When the trial goes commercial, passengers will pay \$12.95 for flights over three hours and \$9.95 for short hops." *PC World* adds that "when Aircell starts to serve Virgin America with gogo later this year, it will charge \$9.95 for flights of three hours or fewer." As for AA, the airline says it plans to prevent voice calls from being made over the Internet. "Customers don't want it, American said, and surveys strongly agree with them," *PC World* writes.

Wall Street Journal (subscription required) technology writer Walt Mossberg was on AA's inaugural Wi-Fi flight and reviewed the service, writing: "The service operates at respectable, if not blazing, speeds similar to what you'd get on a cellular broadband service or a slow home DSL line. I found that most of the tasks I tested, except for streaming video, felt smooth and normal."

TAP Portugal starts trial of inflight e-mail, cell phone calls

TAP Portugal says it has started offering inflight e-mail, text messages and cell phone calls. Using the latest Inmarsat satellite network, the service will be available on a single Airbus A319 aircraft. If successful after six months of trial, the carrier may expand it to other aircraft. The crew can turn off the service at any time, or switch it to silent text and email only mode, it says.

Motel 6 now has Wi-Fi in every property

Let's devote some time to people on a budget this week (that would be me after I paid \$64 to fill up my car). Accor North America announced today that it has completed installation of wireless, high speed Internet access in its more than 600 Motel 6 and Studio 6 properties nationwide. It's not free but it's priced lower than many properties -- \$2.99 per 24-hour period. Jim Amorosia, president and chief operating officer for Motel 6, Studio 6 and Accor North America paraphrased the Motel 6 TV ads in the announcement: We are excited to be able to leave the light and the Internet on for our guests.



Scenes from the road...

Here you can see a "prep" nook that has been added just before the B Concourse security checkpoint at Baltimore/Washington International. It gives travelers one last chance to organize their belongings and discard items before going through the security queues.

Device-charging stations [Minneapolis]

Minneapolis-St. Paul now has 22 charging stations throughout the Lindbergh and Humphrey Terminals. Sponsored by Samsung Mobile, the 8½-foot-tall towers include four outlets per station, letting travelers recharge their electronic devices for free. Similar stations are available at five other airports: New York's John F. Kennedy and LaGuardia, Los Angeles, Orlando and Dallas/Fort Worth.

Satellite Shorts from All Over [AMSAT]

- The NanoSail-D satellite mentioned in prior ANS reports was featured this week in a NASA web release: This summer, NASA engineers will try to realize a dream older than the Space Age itself: the deployment of a working solar sail in Earth orbit. It is scheduled for launch on-board a SpaceX Falcon 1 rocket as early as July 29, 2008?. See:
http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/26jun_nanosaild.htm?list958901
- The EE Times ran an article about Suitsat and SuitSat-2. The SDR transponder aboard SuitSat-2 is based on the High Performance Software Defined Radio Odyssey system. For the article see:
<http://www.eetimes.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=208403999> (Via Graham, KE9H on the HPSDR Discussion List at <http://hpsdr.org>)

More Satellite Shorts From All Over [AMSAT]

- NASA's Deep Impact spacecraft has created a video of the moon transiting (passing in front of) Earth as seen from the spacecraft's point of view 31 million miles (50 million kilometers) away. Quick Time version is available at: http://www.nasa.gov/topics/solarsystem/features/epoxi_transit.html YouTube version is available at: <http://www.universetoday.com/2008/07/17/an-alien-view-of-the-moon-transiting-earth/>
- On-line video from the Dayton 2008 SDR Forum can be found at: <http://www.hamsdr.com/dnld.aspx>. Scroll down the list to the links labeled "Dayton_2008_Video".
- If you like some ideas about what Satellites were like in the past, here is a link to a great publication. I remember always having it around my shack to show people about various types and operating of satellites. See: http://www.amsat-dl.org/pic/gallery2/main.php?g2_itemId=7527

New Earth Photos Received From Cute-1.7

Mineo Wakita, JE9PEL reported this week that more pictures have been received from the CMOS camera aboard the Cute-1.7 + APD II satellite. The pictures may be viewed on-line at: <http://lss.mes.titech.ac.jp/ssp/cute1.7/blog/01-04.jpg> ; <http://www.ne.jp/asahi/hamradio/je9pel/cut17ap2.htm> The CMOS camera aboard Cute-1.7 + APD II is controlled by a PDA which also performs the JPEG format conversion and compression prior to transmission via FM packet on the satellite's UHF downlink. [AMSAT]

Amateur Radio Video Posted

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) held its annual Field Day over the June 28-29 weekend. A Field Day video has been posted on YouTube. It features the International Space Station and/or ARISS program several times. To view this, see: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=varHL752Odk> [AMSAT]

Surveillance cameras on runway pass test [Singapore]

After a 15-month trial at Singapore Changi, a new surveillance system that detects foreign objects and debris on runways will be installed at Chicago O Hare later this year. Installed by aviation technology firm SITA, the system uses a series of cameras installed along the runway to constantly capture surface images. The images are sent back to computers, allowing airport officials to verify the presence of a foreign object and determine whether to deploy a clean-up crew. Traditionally, airports have relied on radar and manual inspection to detect foreign objects on runways. Umar Khan of SITA says testing at Changi showed that it was able to detect objects less than an inch in size from 330 yards away. Changi is installing the system on two of its runways. The 2000 Concorde crash in France was determined to have been caused by runway debris. A metal strip on the runway caused a tire to explode on takeoff, damaging the supersonic jet.

2007 ARRL Annual Report Now Available

The *ARRL Annual Report* for 2007, now [available online](#) and in print, reviews the League's major events of the year and documents the renewed growth of both the ARRL and the activities of the Amateur Radio Service. Just 50 years ago, there were fewer than 90,000 ARRL members; in 2007, ARRL achieved its highest level of membership growth since 1993. By the end of 2007, there were 153,535 ARRL members -- a single year increase of 3.3 percent. In this period of growth, ARRL has upheld its commitment and mission as the leading representative of active radio amateurs.

ARRL Audio News Returns to Phone Lines

We are pleased to report that *ARRL Audio News* can once again be accessed via telephone at 860-594-0384; it had been down for a few days due to equipment failure. Compiled and edited from *The ARRL Letter*, *ARRL Audio News* is available on the League's Web site for two weeks and via telephone for one week after publication. We are sorry for any inconvenience the outage may have caused. [ARRL]

ARRL Presence at HAM RADIO 2008 in Friedrichshafen

HAM RADIO 2008, the 33rd International Exhibition for Radio Amateurs in Friedrichshafen, Germany, was held June 27-29. This annual event, billed as Europe's biggest hamfest, focused this year on the radio amateur satellite program and included many programs and activities for youth. The event drew more than 17,000 visitors from over 30 countries. The fourth annual Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC) preceded the event. A team representing ARRL attended, greeting international ARRL members throughout HAM RADIO 2008. ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, who attended the event, has posted a [blog](#) recapping the event.

ARRL Contest Update Offers Valuable Information for All

Every two weeks, H. Ward Silver, N0AX, produces the ARRL Contest Update. Each issue is jam-packed with information for all operators, be they involved in radiosport or not, such as operating and technical tips, propagation information and a focus on a technical Web site each issue. Of course, everything you need to know about upcoming contests is right there at your fingertips. Since the ARRL Contest Update is available in HTML, there is a link to the rules for each individual contest listed, as well as pictures. ARRL members can subscribe the ARRL Contest Update on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/contests/update/about.html#get>.

IARU Administrative Council Meets in Germany

The Administrative Council (AC) of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its Annual Meeting on June 24-25, 2008 in Konstanz, Germany. Topping the agenda was the consultative process leading to nominations for IARU President and Vice President for the five-year term beginning on May 9, 2009. Current IARU President Larry Price, W4RA, announced in 2007 that he was not available to serve an additional term. The AC agreed that Vice President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, and Region 1 President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, are suitably qualified to serve as IARU President and Vice President, respectively. Their nominations will be offered to the Member-Societies for ratification. The ARRL serves as the International Secretariat of the IARU.

FCC Chairman: cable TV from phone companies a "victory for consumers"

Att A U.S. Appeals court has upheld the Federal Communication Commission's 2007 order that made it easier for AT&T and other phone companies to move into the video business. The cable industry challenged the FCC's ruling, as did states, which have long held sway over the video franchising process. Today the court disagreed, telling the complainants, in so many words, to shut their pie holes. In an interview with USA Today, FCC Chairman Kevin Martin says the court's decision is an important victory for consumers. Noting that cable TV rates have skyrocketed over the past decade, he says the cable industry needs some competition, and the FCC's franchising rules help pave the way for that. As chairman, Martin has gained a reputation for being hard on the cable TV industry. Martin says that's not fair.

What I focus on is making sure consumers have a choice among services, he says. What's not fair, Martin says, is for cable TV operators to continue forcing consumers to buy big bundles of channels, even though they may only want a few. Consumers need to have more choice.

Riley Hollingsworth Retires July 3: The End of an Era

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, spoke at the FCC forum at the 2008 Dayton Hamvention. After almost 10 years of working in Amateur Radio enforcement, Hollingsworth is set to retire from the FCC today. 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 - will say goodbye to the FCC as he retires and begins 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.

Court of Appeals: FCC Must Reimburse Fees Stemming from BPL Challenge

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. 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. 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. 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."

Logbook of the World Net

The first weekly Logbook of the World Net (LOTW-Nets) is now in operation.

Meeting each Monday evening at 2359Z (ie: Monday evening 7:59pm. EDT), this net meets on 14.270 mhz. (increment +5 as required if QRM). Additional frequencies and dates are proposed.

The LOTW DX and WAS nets are to help awards chasers find needed DX and WAS stations that are willing to QSL via the ARRL Logbook of The World system.

This net and e-mail group are open to all amateur radio operators that are willing to QSL via LOTW. Netlogger is used (optional).

"Work those needed band/entities and have confirmations usable toward ARRL awards in hours, not months or years."

LOTW-Nets reflector: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LotW-Nets/messages>

ARRL Logbook of the World: <http://www.arrl.org/lotw/>

Free Netlogger download: <http://netlogger.org/download.html>

LOTW-Nets website: To be announced-

73 Neil W3ZQI

A Summer of E-Skip

Tired of the lousy conditions on the HF bands? Come join the crowd on the "Magic Band." Each summer regardless of where the sunspot cycle is, sporadic E -- or E-skip -- blooms on 6 meters and sometime even on the bands above that. What often appears to be a dead band jumps to life with signals -- some relatively close, only hundreds of miles away -- but some representing worldwide DX on 6 meters.

New 70 MHz beacon in Portugal

A new 4 meter beacon in Portugal will operate on 70.166 MHz with the callsign CS5BFM. Sited at locator IM59rd, the antenna, which is a horizontal doublet dipole, is at 12m above sea level. The power level is at 10W using A1A mode. Reports can be e-mailed to geral@ct1arr.org or the DX-Summit Spot Database.

Danish 4m band extended

The Danish 4m band allocation has been extended. You will now be able to find Danish station on 69.9875 to 70MHz; 70.2375 to 70.2875 MHz and 70.4875 to 70.5125 MHz. [RSGB]

National Railways on the Air weekend

Bishop Auckland Amateur Radio Club is coordinating the National Railways on the Air Weekend that will take place on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 September. This date celebrates the anniversary of the first steam powered passenger railway, which took place on 27 September 1825. The first passenger train ran on a line in the North East of England from Darlington to Stockton. The Club is expecting to operate the special event station GB2EVR at the Eden Valley Railway. If you would like to take part by running a station, approach your nearest preserved railway, ask if they are celebrating the birth of passenger railways in this country and would they like to have an amateur radio station as part of their event to promote awareness of their railway. Once you have their agreement, apply for a special event licence in the usual way with Ofcom. Please leave plenty of time for this application to be published. When you have the details of the station, please register at www.barac.m0php.net. Please click on the Register for the Railways on the Air Weekend link and enter details of your special event station in the contact box.

Icom to broadcast from WWII sea fort

This summer, Icom UK is to sponsor a unique radio station on the outskirts of Kent. In fact this special station called Red Sands Radio will be 8.5 miles offshore from Whitstable on the North coast of Kent in an old WWII Army Sea Fort on the Red Sands.

The radio station, which will be on-air from early July, will be broadcasting to 1,000's of listeners in Kent on 1278kHz and via the Internet at <http://www.redsandonline.co.uk>.

As part of the sponsorship agreement, Icom UK are planning to operate an Amateur Radio special event station. Ofcom has issued GBORSR the special call sign for this occasion.

Icom will be broadcasting on HF using an IC-756PROIII in the evening and on VHF/UHF in the day. Icom UK also plan to conduct D-Star transmissions into a repeater system and the Internet. A vertical antenna will be affixed to the stanchions on the Southern Gun Tower roof to support the communications. The Red Sands forts in the Thames Estuary

Project-Redsand is a Registered Charity that aims to preserve the Red Sands Army Fort as they are the last complete set of its kind in the world. Red Sands Radio is part of that task but in addition has the ambition to provide real 'Local Radio for Local People'.

Programme Director, Bob Le-Roi said, 'Icom have a mutual interest in what we are doing & we're delighted they're aboard. We're offering Icom UK an opportunity to broadcast world-wide during this summer transmission period.'

He added, 'preparing the Fort for broadcasting is a mammoth task. We install generators, set up the radio station, erect an antenna system and make it habitable. It will be a big job for us all.'

Icom UK Managing Director Phil Hadler said, 'We very much enjoyed the programmes from Red Sands Radio last year, it was a breath of fresh air hearing something different, that was topical and local, that played a wide range of music. We as a specialist organisation realised how difficult it was to pull off the initiative and are pleased to be supporting the project hereon'

Radio Red Sands launches in early July 2008.

For more details of this unique station including operating times and frequencies stay tuned to this website <http://www.icomuk.co.uk> or <http://www.hamlife.co.uk>

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Aug 2
European HF Championship
TARA Grid Dip Shindig

Aug 2-3
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB
ARRL UHF Contest
North American QSO Party, CW

Aug 3
SARL HF Phone Contest

Aug 9-10
WAE DX Contest, CW

Aug 16-17
SARTG WW RTTY Contest
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
North American QSO Party, SSB

Aug 16-18
New Jersey QSO Party

Aug 18
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

Aug 23-24
Ohio QSO Party

Aug 30-31
YO DX HF Contest
SCC RTTY Championship

Aug 31
SARL HF CW Contest

Sep 1-2
MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint

Sep 6-7
All Asian DX Contest, Phone

Sep 6
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint
AGCW Straight Key Party

Sep 7
North American Sprint, CW
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest

(Thanks, Bruce, WA7BNM)

Amateur Radio Special Event to Commemorate Polar Transit Anniversary

The USS Nautilus, the world's first nuclear-powered vessel, is today a public museum, visited by more than 250,000 annually at its berth at the Submarine Force Library and Museum in Groton, Connecticut. The ship (along with Old Ironsides in Boston) is one of only two vessels designated as Historic Ships. Now, amateur radio operators worldwide will be able to participate in the recognition of the ship's most notable and historic accomplishment. Amateur radio operator Don Keith, N4KC, is spearheading a special amateur radio on-air operating event commemorating the 50th anniversary of Nautilus reaching the North Pole on its first-ever run through the fabled Northwest Passage. In co-operation with the Southern New England Region of the Navy/Marine Corps Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and the Submarine Base Amateur Radio Club (K1SSN), stations will be operating from the grounds of Historic Ship Nautilus and the Submarine Force Museum and Library in Groton during the weekend of August 2 and 3, 2008. Nautilus actually reached the North Pole at 11:15 PM EDST on August 3, 1958. Plans are for the event to continue until at least that time so one lucky amateur operator will have a QSO at the precise moment Nautilus pierced the pole fifty years before. The on-air operation will use special events call sign N9N for Nautilus 90 North, recalling the historic radio message sent to President Eisenhower when the ship emerged from beneath the ice pack to announce the mission's success. The North Pole is at 90 degrees north latitude. Tentative operating frequencies will be 7.279 MHz on 40 meters and 14.243 and 14.343 MHz on 20 meters, depending on prior use and QRM, using SSB. Other bands, modes, and frequencies may also be activated depending on response and demand. MARS members have been issued a special invitation to come by and assist with the operation. Special commemorative QSLs will be sent to those who confirm contact and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. QSLs should be sent to:

Don Keith N4KC
40 Red Stick Road

Indian Springs Village, AL 35124

Event info is available at QRZ.com under N9N, <http://www.n4kc.com/>, or by emailing N4KC@bellsouth.net.

ARRL DX Bulletin

UGANDA, 5X.

Nick, G3RWF is QRV as 5X1NH from Fort Portal in Western Uganda until August 15. QSL via G3RWF.

MALAWI, 7Q.

Harry, G0JMU is QRV as 7Q7HB and is here for an indefinite period of time. He is active using mostly RTTY and PSK31. QSL direct via G0IAS.

HONG KONG, VR2.

The Hong Kong Amateur Radio DX Association will use the special call sign VR2008O during the Olympic Games on 40 through 6 meters with SSB, RTTY and PSK31 until August 31. QSL direct only to VR2XMT, Charlie Ho, P.O. Box 900, Fanling Post Office, Hong Kong. Have a look at the QSL on www.qrz.com/vr2008o.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E51.

Bill, N7OU, will be QRV as E51NOU between September 15 and October 11. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using low power and CW only. QSL via N7OU.

IRAN, EP.

Yuki, JH1NBN, is currently active as EP3BN. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via his home call sign.

USI to Host Special Event Stations

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 USI website for further details:

<http://www.usislands.org/>.

Check Out the July/August NCJ

NCJ, *The National Contest Journal*, is what everyone interested in radiosport needs to have in their shack. Filled with the latest news from the contesting world, NCJ is what every contester needs in their shack. Whether you are new to contesting or are a seasoned pro (or somewhere in the middle), you will find something in *NCJ* just for you.

Hamfests and Events

Friday-Sunday August 1-3: Hanover, PA
3.905 CCN Annual Eyeball by 3.905 Century Club,
Pleasant Hill Vol. Fire Company, Hanover, PA. Bill
Dobson, N3WD, 443-465-6583 n3wd@arrl.net Talk-in:
146.895

Sunday, August 3, Berryville (Winchester) VA
58th Annual Berryville Hamfest ; Shenandoah Valley ARC;
Clarke Co., Ruritan Fairgrounds, Bus. Rte. 7, Berryville
540-533-2626; hamfest@svarc.org (146.82/R)

August 9, 10: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club Hamfest Hilton Suites
Hotel, Winnipeg Airport Hamfest 2008@mts.net; 146.61/R
, 147.39/R <http://www.mts.net/~warc/hamfest/contact.html>
(great site to learn how to put on a hamfest and get people to
attend ...)

Sunday, August 17, Westminster, MD
Carroll County ARC Tailgate Fest. Carroll Co. Agr. Center,
off Rte. 32, Westminster, MD. . (145.41/R) Bill, N3WM,
410-861-9366

Sat./Sun. Sept. 20-21 - Virginia Beach, VA
Va. Beach Hamfest ; VA Wesleyan College. 1584
Wesleyan Dr. VA Beach. (146.97/R) Lynn, W9DJQ,
757-479-1597 hamfest@exis.net

Sunday, October 5: W. Friendship, MD
CARAFest 2008, Howard Co. Fairground (410) 552-2632;
<http://www.carafest.org> **Sunday, October 26:** Westminster,
MD
Mason-Dixon Hamfest at Carroll Co. Agr. Center, off Rte.
32, Westminster, MD <http://www.qis.net/~k3pzn>;
145.410/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: Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Nov 2, Dec 1.
Sundays: 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; 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)

Foundation For Amateur Radio Scholarships
The Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) announces the
winners of the 55 scholarships It administers. Winner of
the Ernest L. Walker, WB3DVL Memorial Scholarship,
sponsored by the BRATS is Thomas Christovich,
KB3HUR of Baltimore, MD.

**Hiram Percy Maxim's Telegraph Key Returns to
ARRL HQ**
At the ARRL Board of Director's meeting this past
weekend, the telegraph key that once belonged to Hiram
Percy Maxim, W1AW, was returned to ARRL
Headquarters. According to ARRL First Vice President
Kay Craigie, N3KN, the key had been in the collection of
the Antique Wireless Association's Electronic
Communication Museum near Rochester, New York for
more than 20 years.

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please send me an email to that effect.
Thanks! w3gxk@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 w3gxk@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

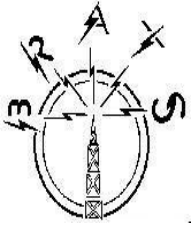
8411 Harford Road, Parkville, 410-665-3622. Home of fine trains, model kits, x-acto, cars, planes, ships, many radios. Yaesu FT101ZD, Kenwood TS 820S, 930S, Heathkit SB-102, National NC-183, more ... Dick, N3JWN, 410-488-2806

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 w3gxk@verizon.net

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.



the Milliwatt



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

August 2008

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 147.345+/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)

Interesting Web Site

British Amateur Television Club (BATC)

<http://www.batc.org.uk>

Next BRATS Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 7:15 PM

Pikesville Library

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

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Call Sign

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Address _____

City/State/Zip

Phone _____

Email

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