
The TSRAC ARNB

The TSRAC Amateur Radio News Bulletin

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Issued Bi-Monthly - Never Missed an Issue

392nd Edition

FIRST DAY OF REVIVED TSRAC FORTY METER NET A BUST. WILL TRY AGAIN UNTIL IT IS A SUCCESS

TSRAC had scheduled October 30 as the day and time of 5 PM EST to start the revived TSRAC 40 Meter Net. Unfortunately, this was the time a contest coupled with bad atmospheric conditions were also scheduled or occurred. This was the EXACT bad dual conditions that drove TSRAC to create a recess in 40 meter operations. BUT, as the saying goes, IF at first you don't succeed, TRY TRY AGAIN!

NEW INSTRUCTIONS: Each Sunday at 5 PM EST on or above 7230 kHz (until a clear frequency is found), all FORMER TSRAC operators, holding their same titles (Net Mgr; Net Control Station; Net Checkins) will give it that "old college try" and attempt to make it a success it once held. A few stations, such as Ron, KD8AMT and others, reported hearing TSRAC members trying to make the contacts but none successful enough to establish a net frequency. A few rare TSRAC members were reported to have made intermittent contacts but nothing could be really organized due to the two faults mentioned.

Fact of life: Stations that seriously operate and participate in Contests-On-The-Air generally run power, even up to the permitted maximum 1,000 watts input power. Plus, regrettably, the Solar Cycle is at a low ebb, and weird atmospheric conditions prevail. This will quiet down and Contests are not a constant thing and there are usually many opportunities to make contacts. Normally 40 Meters is a good operating band so TSRAC is NOT giving up on it. FACT: there are certain DAILY established nets that have managed to operate and maintain their chosen, selected frequencies for decades. A once-a-week net generally has a rougher time to set up shop at given times.

A FINAL WORD OR CAUTION: When trying to establish a frequency, pick a frequency ABOVE 7725. This will expand your number of prospective checkins since all classes of licensees from General Class up can operate from there to the top of the allotted 40 meter band to amateurs of higher classes to 7300 kHz. TSRAC operates with a cushion of 5 kHz above the low edge of the band permitted to General Class use, and 5 kHz below the top portion to avoid illegal "splatter" out of band. Advanced Class and Extra Class licensees have earned expanded operating frequencies. Finally, due to requests of members to revive the former TSRAC 40 Meter Net, PLEASE HELP BY CHECKING IN. ALL FORMER assigned TSRAC members on 40 meter operations, pick up and do your former assignments. Let's revive the fun we had before on 40!

FCC NEWS

The FCC called up David Edward Cox, W5OER, of Pride, LA and revoked his license because of many offenses and because of his many felony arrests. (As an Amateur you must have a perfect "character reference". He had acquired a Technician License which was revoked.

FCC put Vanity Call Licenses on hold during the "KATRINA Disaster" and its aftermath so hams in the distressed area could apply after things settled back to a sense of normalcy.

ARRL has asked the FCC to shut down the City of Manassas, VA due to excess BPL interference. to Amateurs in that City. This has been the target of many ARRL complaints but nothing is done by the FCC. It has been served with many complaints and nothing to date has been done about it?

Nearly 3200 comments had to be added recently to comments on CW added to FCC momentary opening for such comments. The comments had to do with doing away with the CW requirement for Amateur Licenses. It also denied several proposals to create new entry-level license class Amateurs.

Added FCC news in said there would be a hiatus on Vanity Call Signs through December due to the damages created in the Hurricane areas to Amateurs living there that had their lives disrupted.

ARRL NEWS

ARES teams had to go into action when New Hampshire was ravaged by flood waters very similar to what happened to the upper Ohio Valley in September of 2004. Three lives, at least, were lost and not only cities there but the Red Cross needed the emergency Amateur Radio teams to assist them in badly needed emergency communications. Amateur Radio teams came through as usual. At last reports, they were bracing for more rain!

ARRL reports that needed Amateur Radio teams in the disaster area of Katrina and Rita are being shut down as regular communications are being now revived and getting back to normal. Amateurs were thanked profusely for their emergency operations and long hours of service to fill in the emergency gap until things, as above got back to normal.

ARRL GETS NEW MEMBERSHIP MANAGER: Something new has been added. ARRL had newly appointed Sarah Dorsey, of West Hartford, CT as the League's new and first MEMBERSHIP MANAGER. She began work October 5th.

ARRL's Noted Lab Manager is Guest Lecturer at Amta 2005 Symposium: Ed Hare, W1RFI, was the guest lecturer at the 2005 Antenna Measurement Techniques Association Symposium held October 20-November 4 at the Newport, Rhode Island, Marriott .

COMMUNICATIONS WORLD NEWS

CIVILIAN PAID FARE SPACE TRAVELER GIVES EXAMPLE OF WHAT FUTURE SPACE TRAVEL WILL BE: Greg Olsen, KC2ONX, who paid Russia to ride in their last Space Shot, inadvertently demonstrated what future space travel will entail in communications back home as they speed on their journey. He not only called home on his AMATEUR RADIO SET but ran demonstrations to schools back home, especially his alma mater Ridgefield Park High School in New Jersey. (Tickets please, and Amateurs may use the set on board to make calls back to Earth!)

CANADIAN AMATEURS SUCCESSFUL IN LOW FREQUENCY CONTACTS: Canadian ham Steve McDonald, VA7SL worked across the Pacific ocean on low frequencies Oct. 4, using slow speed CW to contact Wellington, New Zealand. (Who said CW is passé --still making news and breakthroughs! The distance between the two was 11,700 km!)

ISS COMMANDER DELIGHTS JAPANESE YOUNGSTERS ON HAM CONTACT

Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, commander of the International Space Station delighted Japanese School youngsters on a contact when he answered 14 questions they had in reference to space travel. He answered one question on mold by saying they send pictures of it to ground before cleaning it up. Another questioning he says he will be so glad to smell Mother Nature smells when he gets back home in the Spring! (Besides the delight of greeting his family again). An audience of 650 persons were witness to the contact with the school).

AMATEURS HAVE BEEN PREACHING THAT TELEPHONE LINES WOULD FAIL DURING EMERGENCIES AND THAT AMATEUR RADIO OPERATIONS WOULD FILL THE GAP! A telephone outage occurred in Southern California October 18, the Long Beach Emergency Communications and Operations Center declared a communications failure of telephones and Amateur Radio volunteers stepped in to help. The outage disabled 911 service in communicates along the coast and through parts of LA and Orange counties. It also cut off at least 150,000 telephone and Internet service customers for up to 12 hours along with many cell phone users. Radio Amateurs worked with Police and Fire officials to support those departments with auxiliary communications. Hams also worked at 17 of the largest nursing homes in town. The Amateurs supplied communication for hospitals, nursing homes and ambulance services, ensuring access to 911. Three years ago Emergency Services Coordinator Casey Chel, KD6DOV had the foresight to include a complete Amateur Radio facility for those rare occasions when all other communication systems might fail. Those plans paid off on October 18. Source Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach.

LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS

MEMBERS LETTERS: “In my middle age years, I called “CQ” and was answered by editor Ralph and he explained about TSRAC. As he explained it was as I found out “a good outfit! I joined still here today, here are my dues! “ **Ray J. Broussard, WB5WWO, (Member #37040) Orange , TX** (So good to hear from you, Ray, I still remember you well. As I recall you caught a few nets over the years. Look over Net Control Roster at the many nets and give me a call, will sure be glad to renew acquaintance. Tell you wife I said HELLO ALSO)

“To All Members: My wife, May, picked up a copy of Arthur Frommer’s SMART SHOPPING magazine (Premier issue). Very interesting reading and looks worthwhile so if you see it on a newsstand give it a look. Lot of good tips and info for bargain shopping. It is a quarterly magazine and costs \$3.95 per issue and subscription for year is \$9.74. “ **Cecil Crider, WD8D, (Member #1181) Calumet, MI.** (Tks for the tip. Maybe our TSRAC magazine distributor that handles magazine subscriptions at cut prices can hook up with them and make members wives even a lower rate! Tks for the tip, Cecil. PS: I sure remember when you came to TSRAC gatherings at Dayton Conventions! Those were OUR ‘HAPPY DAYS!’)

“Ralph; Enclosed I made a drawing of sun spot cycles and my success in working 6 Meter then! I was most successful on Cycle 21 in the 80s, then came the 90s and only a slight drop, but then came the 2000s and as my graph shows, down went the cycle regretfully.“ **Bill R. Gardner, W8WG, (Member #1155), Athens, Ohio.** (I know, regretfully it happened to me. I will be so glad when it starts back up! P.S: See if you can make our Wednesday Nite 6 Meter Net on 50.150 at 9. P.M. EST. Wisconsin checked in last week to show these things are possible on 6 meters. Tks for the info. KEEP IT UP!)

A FOLLOW-UP LETTER; AC POWER CORD FOR THE OS-40003A INSTANT POWER UNIT In the August/September 2005 News Bulletin, my article entitled “Low Cost Light Duty Emergency Back-up Power for the Ham Station:, I would like to add the following information. The unit has a built-in charger for the charging of the internal battery, but **no AC** power cord is Radio Shack! Ask for their number (61-2759). This is a polarized non-grounded cord, which will work fine in this application. Its 25-foot length will come in handy. **By--William R. Gardner, W8WG** (P.S: Enclosed is clipping from our local paper telling that the B-17 MEMPHIS BELLE is being moved back to Dayton. His widow says the move would have thrilled her pilot husband. (Editor's added note: Also thrills ham visitors to the Dayton Hamvention!)

Silent Key

JAMES ADY, WA8EGG, (Member 406) Woodsfield, OH

TSRAC had to regretfully announce a longtime, faithful member passing on October 13, 2005. Jim WA8EGG became a member way back in March 1978 and had been a faithful serving member for over 27 plus years! Many present day members will remember Jim playing his “fiddle” in a TSRAC pickup group entertaining at important Dinners featured by TSRAC over the years and especially the “early days”! Jim had joined in March, 1978, and IF the Grim Reaper had not come along, in three more months, he would have racked up 28 solid years as a faithful member. Our musician members that played along with Jim will sure miss him. His picture has appeared in the BNT on several of those playing engagements at TSRAC affairs.

He was 85 at his passing, born in Glencoe, Ohio May 3, 1920. He and his brothers were co-owners and operators of A & L Drilling Company. Besides TSRAC he also belonged to the American Radio League. As a musician, he played both the fiddle and the guitar; a veteran of WWII and a Protestant by faith. His wife preceded him in death. He is survived by two daughters, Vivian L. Dillon and Pamela J. Ensinger, both of Woodsfield, a sister, Eunice Brown, Woodsfield, two brothers , Ralph Ady and Glenn Ady, Woodsfield; four grandchildren, six great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews, and a special friend Verna Fluharty of Colliers, WV. Internment was in Cameron, OH, cemetery where the American Legion Post #760 conducted military graveside services. (TSRAC will miss him both as a member and a musician).

FROM THE DESK OF K8AN

(Notice....This column was supposed to be in the last BNT issue)

CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST! I had Christmas the last of August--here's how it happened. My son who lives and has a electronics engineering business in sunny California was taking a vacation from a very busy corporation and heading East to include his father in the overall plans and bringing his whole tribe with him to introduce them to me since for reasons of my own I can't go there instead. Part of his vacation plans included a tour of West Virginia to show those with him its rustic beauty and unusual sights, especially the New River Gorge Bridge, etc. They all flew in to Columbus where he rented a large van, then to St. Clairsville for accommodations during their stop off here. When they arrived it was the same as Santa Claus unloading his sleigh. In he staggered with his right hand man, James, sharing the load of a large, heavy sealed cartoon--what could that be? Accompanying him was my granddaughter Holly Ann, that I got to hug in person instead of by mail, and his friend, Kathy (oh, I love her already), all loaded down carrying packages! I called it later as the heading, "Christmas in August".

They unloaded the large sealed package to reveal a new Frigidaire Kitchen Stove with clock, buttons, lights, and things I will have to learn on! The rest then revealed what they were carrying, a new Lap Top Computer, a color printer, a room ceiling fan with a light on the bottom and items to go in the refrigerator and I don't know what all there was so much, Santa Claus could take lessons--I know I'm forgetting some things. (Their best present was being here and what they all **did** while here and while not touring West Virginia).

Fifty years or so ago, I returned from WWII, all ready to build a house and settle down, weary from what I had been through. I picked my several acres of land because it was only a fraction of a mile from the highest point in eastern Ohio (source Whg Intell) plus it looked level and beautiful. (Tip, you want to sell land and make it look level and beautiful plant it in green alfalfa,, make it look like one giant acreage ready for towers that you can see three states from--it worked for me! When my neighbors learned what I paid for it, they all tried to sell me surrounding acreage but I soon learned I had a job cut out for me on just what I had purchased!)

I made errors from the beginning--after all I was NOT a farmer but a city slicker, no one had ever shown or told me what country life was or what and how you did to conquer it, From the start I was one dumb green horn and no one to advise or help me so I fumble-bumled on.. I started to order from nursery catalogs galore. Who would believe or conceive that those tiny, sickly, spindly Blue Spruce I ordered galore from a nursery in Colorado would soar in some cases fifty feet or more skywards! Hedges--they looked so pretty in the English countryside, I had to have them too. Strawberries, boy, my store could sell hundreds of boxes of how pretty they looked in those catalogs so a company got a dandy order from some greenhorn in eastern Ohio highlands--NO ONE told me you had to plant strawberries, break your back picking first growth blooms or something and it would be a YEAR before you got a real berry! NOW, you tell me. Gee, I almost broke my back dragging a 100 lbs bag of Seed Potatoes from my store. Boy, when I plant them, then harvest 'em and sell them at the store. Wow the money I'll make! How I cut them up, planted them, bought a cart trailer to hitch to my car and haul tobacco stem leavings from Marsh tobacco company, heck, they're free and somebody said you needed them to kill bugs and a list of things I even want to forget now. The only one to gain from that try was Marsh's--they saved costs of having the waste hauled away by we dumb farmers. When I asked a real farmer what I did wrong when I planted 100 lbs seed potatoes and only got back fifty pounds at harvest time, he laughed while I cried saying, "Hey, son, you got clay ground, green alfalfa fools them all the time."

Now, pan your camera to the present--those sickly, spindly, sickly looking what you thought might never amount to much have grown to giant 50ft soaring beautiful green Colorado Blue Spruce trees but have grown into everything within reach, cutting out the sun, into the wires, anything they can create a hazard by their growth, strength and they have a death wish apparently to be struck by lightning! Those hedges, gosh, they looked so nice and trim and orderly in Jolly Olde England--they sure don't love America--they grow like trees and they hate lawnmowers so now is the time to get rid of them and see ground again.

Now, it's time for the three "t's"--truth, telling, time--my handyman and I can't keep up! BUT OVER THE HILL COMES RELIEF--my son and his tribe drive up to our mutual mountain site and saved the day. That cart became a lifesaver as it kept my handyman and me busy as we tried to stay ahead of that worthy crew in their cutting, trimming, getting the trees out of the wires, etc, etc. as we hauled to the "burn pile" in the lower acreage. Now, to the three "t's" again--I'll ALWAYS be grateful to James--he saw a need and jumped to it without being told--he climbed on the roof, cleaned out the gutters and asked if I had spare roofing to match. I didn't store a bundle in the garage for nothing--he took up what he needed and went over everything, solving my worry lines, and some gray hairs as I foresaw the day Daddy was going to be in for a big bill of expense. I'll ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL TO JAMES FOR THAT ONE THING ALONE!.

WHAT A MESS! You would think they knew better. I am referring to the Cadiz Business Association and the Sally Buffalo Park Board! After all this was to be the seventh annual Sally Buffalo Octoberfest and scheduled for Saturday, Oct 1 and Sunday, Oct. 2. I was a participant and the ONLY thing they got right, in my humble opinion, was the Lions Club pancake breakfast each day served from 7-11. They were delicious and after that things went to heck in a bread-basket quite rapidly. WHATA-MESS!

They had sent out an invitation flyer to we residents of the Park to line up at 10 A.M. at Shelter #4 which is near Wilson Lodge so dutifully Rose and I had my Golf cart all decorated up and lined up there along with a few other carts. Rose is the assigned driver, she's good and I handle all the assorted sounds and music apparatus, and normally have a ball! We waited and wondered why the delay--then somebody suddenly said, "You are supposed to be up at the Ball Park and get your number, etc. So, up we rushed to find that where we were first down at the Lodge, up there we were last as they gave us a card to put on our windshield, #59. We had been first, suddenly we were now almost last. Those in charge up there were all aflutter and didn't seem to know what was going on. Then suddenly the mess was told to go down the hill and start parading to be judged, etc. So the mess started down the hill and staggered past the judge's stand. This did give me a chance to have some "fun". Steubenville TV station WTOV was on the stand filming and broadcasting the event. As we neared it, I kicked on my voice amplifier and called out to the girl announcer, "IF you want to see the OctoberFest, tune into Channel 9 this evening!" The girl announcer busted out laughing and said, "Yes, that's right, "Tune in to WTOV tonight and see the parade!" Now, for a strange item for this mess. For the July 4th event they had 59 golf cart entries, for this mess they only had 4 in the parade around the Lake. Don't ask me why because I really don't know? I was truly dissappointed--I didn't even get a chance to get a laugh as I had no opportunity to play my new horn containing dozens of animal sounds--dogs barking, cats meowing, cows blearing, etc. Console yourself, Ralph, there's always next year AND A NEW COMMITTEE! Hurray!

NET CONTROL ROSTER JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2006

WX NET 146.91 WB8AQF (NM) TUESDAY NIGHT 8:15 P.M.	20 METER CHAT NET 14.347 WA3ZAO (NM) SUNDAY 4:00 P.M.	40 METER CHAT NET 7.230 + KB9NPH (NM) SUNDAY 5:00 P.M.
JAN 03 WD8DDE	JAN 01 HOLIDAY	JAN 01 HOLIDAY
JAN 10 KA8YFA	JAN 08 WA3ZAO	JAN 08 K9GPS
JAN 17 WB8AQF	JAN 15 KF8SR	JAN 15 KF8SR
JAN 24 KD8AMT	JAN 22 KD8AMT	JAN 22 KD8AMT
JAN 31 WD8DDE	JAN 29 K8AN	JAN 29 K8AN
FEB 07 KA8YFA	FEB 05 WA3ZAO	FEB 05 KB9NPH
FEB 14 WB8AQF	FEB 12 KF8SR	FEB 12 KF8SR
FEB 21 KD8AMT	FEB 19 KD8AMT	FEB 19 K9GPS
FEB 28 WD8DDE	FEB 26 K8AN	FEB 26 KB9NPH

WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS

8:15	A.R. NEWS NET	146.91	K8AN
8:30	10 METER FONE	28.480	KA8TSR
9:00	6 METER FONE	50.150	KA8TSR

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VX-6R

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- 24 Hour Clock

The Yaesu VX-6R is a tri-band (2M, 220 & 440 MHz) HT with extensive receive 504 kHz - 998.99 MHz (cellular blocked). Like the VX-7R, it is submersible (JIS7) and extremely rugged. It puts out 5 Watts on 144 and 430 and 1.5 W on 220. With 900 6-digit alpha memories. It features the new "Emergency Automatic ID" (EAI) system, Enhanced Paging and Code Squelch (EPCS), "Wake-Up" battery saver system. Other features include: black magnesium case, 24 hour clock, 900 memories, severe weather alert, and multicolor transmit/receive LED. The Volume and Squelch knobs are oversized and there is an optional submersible speaker mic. 2.3" x 3.5" x 1.1" 9.5 oz. The VX6R comes with: Antenna, FNB-80LI Lithium Ion Battery, NC-72B Battery Charger, Belt Clip and Wrist Strap.

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