

The BEAM

ARMS Christian
Fellowship Group



Summer 2021

Multimedia Communications

Sometimes we, as radio people, think only in radio terms. In communicating the Gospel we need to think in terms of all the methods available to us. None is more important than another and they all contribute toward getting the message out.

An example of this is what Reach Beyond Australia has been doing. Their CEO tells me:

"Alongside shortwave, we are rapidly growing our reach to Tamil speakers through WhatsApp, a free messenger app for smartphones which uses the internet to send messages, images, audio or video.

"These Gospel messages we produce are being distributed to a network of thousands of Tamil listeners every day of the week in both audio and text!"

Please pray for the continued growth of the WhatsApp reach, currently reaching over thousands of people in 5 languages. "

This is just one example. Nearly all the radio ministries are doing something similar—using all the tools at their disposal to get the task done. I used the Australia example as one is that I had at hand. Other examples are:

Podcasts

Check out <https://jesusonline.com/> for an example of what is going on with podcasts and chat rooms to share the Gospel. They have about 100,00 visitors a day to the site and thousands of decision for Christ each year.

Audio Players

"Proclaimers" are small solar-powered digital audio players - bringing God to oral-based communities in their own language.

The Koma people of Ghana speak the Konni language. Sibiri Awa is a young Koma woman, who married into a different ethnic group (the Sisala) and moved away from her community. Recently she returned to the Koma village of Yikpabongo and, she listened to a Proclaimer that one of her relatives had. Sibiri had never seen a Proclaimer before, but over the next few days she became engrossed as she heard in her own Konni language the Gospel message.

TWR

TWR is now broadcasting globally in more than 300 languages and dialects. The majority of the languages are heard over an international network of high-powered transmitters or connections with local stations. Some are distributed in online programming or on digital recordings for audio devices. At the core of the online programming is the web-based portal TWR360 with video and text on-demand, which has just added its 100th language.

Please pray for these and all the media ministries as they adapt to their local needs. Whether it be shortwave radio, local radio, audio players or internet, the message is the same. Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life. There is no other way!



The Household of Faith

I was sitting in a local restaurant enjoying a – (don't tell anybody) – big bacon cheeseburger with homemade vegetable beef soup. That's a favorite combination of mine.

My ear and hearing aid were towards the next booth, and I overheard a conversation between two couples on prayer. My hearing didn't allow me to get much other than that reoccurring word. I finished my meal and left a tip.

I stopped at their table and said "I'm a Christian and prayer is a powerful tool for us." That's as far as I got, for I was soon being hugged by the older man who had stood up. For all to hear he told me: "That means we're brothers!!" (Another hug.) We discovered we were related: members of the "household of faith."

Galatians 6:10 reads: "*As we therefore have opportunity, let us do good to all men, especially those of the household of faith.*"

I belong to a worldwide fraternity of amateur radio operators, "HAMS." "ARMS is The Amateur Radio Missionary Society. This worldwide radio net links Christian hams from many lands. Galatians 6:10 is read as part of the preamble before a Net begins with that verse from the Scriptures.

Some people think a Christian is someone who "doesn't smoke, doesn't chew and doesn't go with girls that do." Wow does that ever miss the mark. Christians are sinners saved by grace; individuals who have come the blood-bought way. It's not what I don't do, it's **WHO** I know that counts.

Oh, and by the way. I almost always leave a tip. The exception is if I receive poor table service and the waitress doesn't come back to refill my coffee cup. I learned that from my wife. Marilyn worked her way through college serving in what could sometimes be the grueling work of waitressing. Her motto was if you receive good service – good tip. Poor service – no tip.

Beloved, here's a tip for you: Be ready at any time to give witness to your faith in Christ.

73 & 99

Chuck Winter—N7AAG

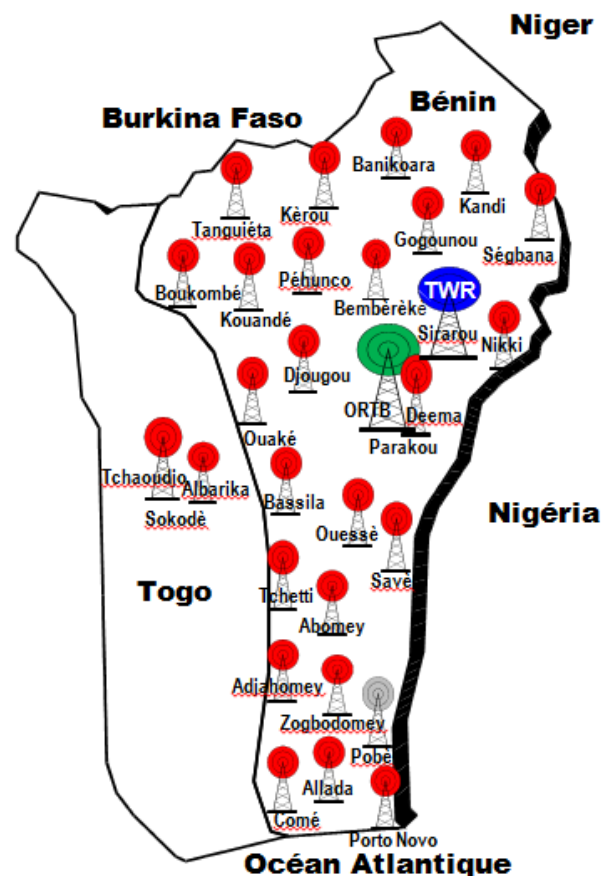
SIM Benin/Togo

We have grown from broadcasts in three languages in 1991 to an outreach in over 22 languages and more than 28 national and community radio stations, including Trans World Radio.

We want to use radio and other forms of media to ensure that every ethnic community in Benin and Togo has the opportunity to hear, understand and be transformed by the Gospel in their own language.

The Ministry aims to:

- produce more than 1,000 Christian radio messages each year across 22 different languages
- collectively broadcast these messages over 7,000 times per year via approximately 28 national, community and private radio stations
- follow-up interested listeners through phone calls, visits and the distribution of Bible study booklets
- equip the local church for evangelism by training new speakers and people in follow-up work



In Memory of Donald Birx, K3RYV One of the early members of ARMS

Dr. Donald Lloyd Birx was born November 30, 1924 in Baltimore, was the valedictorian of his class, won a full scholarship to Johns Hopkins (JHU), graduated two years later in 1944, enlisted in the Navy, and afterwards received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, also from Johns Hopkins.



(Don—K3RYV at his shack)

But that is just the start of a life that was transformed by two events - one his marriage in 1951 to his wife of 70 years, Adele Sparks Birx and two, his encounter with Christ. These led to a life of teaching at Philadelphia Bible College, during lunch breaks from his full-time job at the Franklin Institute, his ministry in the Amateur Radio Missionary Service supporting missionaries around the world (and the constant radio chatter we grew up with - especially during dinner), his association with Wycliffe Bible Translators, teaching Sunday school, and singing and playing the organ in church (and at home).

Dad's love of his dear wife led them to a farm in Mechanicsburg, PA where they spent the last 45 years - he, a city boy transformed into a farmer (in his spare time) growing corn, raising sheep and even cows, and cultivating an orchard. But his favorite pastime was mowing the pastures and the large lawn.

In Dad's professional life he went on from the Franklin Institute to the space program at General Electric, Hamilton Watch, Reeves Hoffman (a

crystal company), and finally on to lead the Bureau of Rates for the State of Pennsylvania from which he retired. His three kids (Donnie, Danny, and Debby) took after him, from pursuing all manner of experiments in the basement as kids, to going to graduate school and continuing to do it professionally, one as a medical researcher and Ambassador, one as a physicist and inventor, and one as a university president.

His wife became a professor as well. Dad loved his wife and children dearly as well as his six grandchildren (Danielle, Devyn, Christy, Amy, Donnie, and Sierra) and six great grandchildren (Adeline, Abigail, John, Adele, Louis, and Bennett) and spent his last months in the care of his daughter and granddaughters in Potomac, MD.

In Dad's last days he seemed to travel between two worlds, giving us a glimpse into the next and firmly establishing his deep faith, even breaking out singing John 3:16 one day from his hospital bed. He may not have always known where he was in his last days, but he knew where he was going. We will all miss him, most especially his loving wife Adele, but we also know for sure we will see him again someday.

(Obituary written by his children)

From Ray— K4LWJ

Once again Ray was "On the plane again". This time he went to Bolivia to interact with several groups interested in Ethnic Radio.

He was gone from October 5th to the 19th and went to Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, Sucre and back to Santa Cruz.

Please pray for him as he continues to interact with those who have a vision to reach indigenous groups in their own language by radio.

Retired? I don't think so.

Thank you for being a part of our team,

Ray and Doris

"...and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8b



ARMS NEWS and INFORMATION

AMATEUR RADIO MISSIONARY SERVICE

Financial Report

June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021

		Opening Balance \$	5,737.08
Income			
Dues	\$	890.00	
Gifts	\$	388.00	
Tracts and Pins	\$	23.00	
		Total Income \$	1,301.00
Expenses			
Chat Room		\$135.00	
Postage		\$89.19	
Printing/Copies		\$47.50	
		Total Operating	
		Expense \$	271.69
		Closing Balance May 31, 2021 \$	6,766.39

Of this balance, \$1,006.40 is in a fund in memory of WØQCB, a long time leader in the Midwest Section



Notes from the editor:

I would encourage you all to share missionary activity and reports of what is going on in your part of the world with me. Sharing prayer requests and praise items with the other members is always welcome as we strive to make out Lord known.

Also, pictures of ministry activity are more than welcome! I realize that pictures are not appropriate in some situations, as they could endanger the believers and/or the ministry involved. We just want to encourage sharing what is going on and encourage prayer for those involved.

After all, it is the Amateur Radio **MISSIONARY** Service!

Roger—w0zmu@outlook.com

ARMS Web Site

Most of you are aware of the ARMS Web Site, but it bears talking about again. Check it out at::

<https://www.qsl.net/arms/>

Lew, NØCXV is the webmaster and works hard to keep it up to date. It is not only a vehicle to share our activities among the members, but also is our “window” to the public. He would appreciate suggestion for additions or corrections.

By referring those with whom we talk to on the air to the site, we are opening a door for them to meet the Lord, or to interest them in ARMS membership. There are lots of pages on the site, but I’ll mention only a couple of them here.

CHAT ROOM

Don’t forget the Chat Room on the Web Page. This is especially useful if you can’t get into the net for one reason or another.

Go to the Web Page: <https://www.qsl.net/arms/>

Then, click on the “Chat Room and SDRs” link. You can sign in as a “Guest” using only your call. This is not a substitute for live checking into the Net, but as an aid to participating in fellowship, especially if you can’t transmit.

ARMS BADGES



A reminder: Attractive badges are available with your name, call letters and the ARMS logo for the very reasonable price of US\$9.00.

Use the link found on the ARMS Web Page, clicking on the “ARMS Badge” link. Then, choose “Ham Radio Badges” and you will see the sample there. You can also choose the type of fastener you desire. These are engraved Formica badges and are another way to show you affiliation and open a conversation.

Our thanks to Frank—AGØM for getting this set up. activities and other events.

