



The Wave Bender

March 2011



PRESIDENT'S QST

The time has come to either step up or step out. What do you want out of your radio club? You only get out of a club what you are willing to put into it. This is the NOTHING in gets NOTHING out syndrome. It takes being involved by everyone to make the club succeed. The board can only do so much without input from the rest of the club members. We are a small club that will not grow without the membership working to make it grow. We, the board, are trying to make the club fun and helping any and all members that need help, be it upgrading, building a project, or using a new mode of communicating. The big question I have is, do you really want to have the best club in the valley or rather be like the other clubs?

Because of the perception of Ham Radio in this area we have to show the Government agencies that we are better prepared to help them.

It is very frustrating for me to continue to try and make things fun and put on demonstrations on subjects *Continued page 7*



SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING 2011



www.weather.gov

Being a storm spotter not only means dedication, but also training. Each spring the Cleveland office of the National Weather Service trains members of police and fire departments, emergency management officials, amateur radio operators and weather interested citizens on spotting techniques. Typically the training is coordinated by a local group (such as an emergency management agency), and a NWS meteorologist serves as the guest instructor. The goal of the training is not just to recognize tornadoes, but to have some understanding of storm structure, which in turn better prepares the spotter for the extreme and unusual circumstances.

SKYWARN Training is FREE and open to the public. Please attend any of the training sessions listed below. You will be trained and enrolled in the program. You do not need to pre-register.

The following are local locations, dates, and times:

- Columbiana County - 3/22 6/6:15PM, Columbiana County Career Center, State Rt. 45, South of Lisbon across from OSP Post 15.
- Mahoning County - 4/6/11 5:30 PM, Austintown Fitch Auditorium, 4560 Falcon Drive, Austintown, OH 44515
- Trumbull County - 3/15/11 6:30 PM, Kent State Branch, Technology Building, Room 117, 4314 Mahoning Ave., N. W., Warren, Ohio 44483

You don't have to be a Ham to attend. If you are an accredited spotter but didn't attend last year you must renew in 2011. For additional information contact:

Gary Garnet (Warning Coordination Meteorologist)
National Weather Service
5301 West Hangar Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44135
216-265-2382 EXT 223
e-mail: gary.garnet@noaa.gov

The 75th Anniversary of ARES® started in September 2010. Are you getting ready?
<http://www.arrrl.org/ares-anniversary>



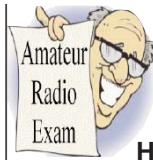
Officer's Meeting: Mar. 13, 7:00 P.M.
At the Avnet's, 2050 E. South Range Rd.
New Springfield (330-549-3051)

Regular Meeting: March 15, 7:00 P.M.
Davidson's, in Cornersburgh
Program: Dennis Conklin AI8PContesting at KP2D in St Thomas

2011 Officers

President:	Al Avnet AB8AA	ab8aa@arrl.net
VP:	Roy Haren KD8IJF	harens@juno.com
Secretary:	Jane Avnet K8JAA	k8jaa@arrl.net
Treasurer:	John Fabry KC8SPF	jonnyjukebox@sbcglobal.net
Trustees:	Ted Filmer KD8IJE	efilmer@aol.com
	Russ Williams KD8LDY	russellwhoknew69@aol.com
Social:	Steve Fabry KC8SOY	kc8soy@yahoo.com
	Maureen Stein KD8NXS	mfstein@zoominternet.net

FEBRUARY TEST SESSION



At the February test session we had three trying for Extra and one testing for General. Congratulations to **Kevin Stein KD8NXR** who upgraded to General and **Harry Fox N8KRB** who upgraded to Extra.

The VEs for the session were: Al Avnet AB8AA, contact VE; Jane Avnet K8JAA; Jim Jickess KB8QDZ; Bob McCully AB8OP; Wes Boyd W8IZC; Dave Beatty KC8WY. Thanks for your help.

Home and Garden Show

March 25,26,27 2011

**Austintown Expo Center
Austintown, Ohio**

Over 15,000 people attended
this show in 2010 !

Show Hours:

Fri:12 :00 P.M.-9 :00 P.M.

Sat:10 :00 A.M.-9 :00 P.M.

Sun:10 :00 A.M.-5 :00 P.M.

Volunteer and spend some time
promoting WRARC and Amateur Radio

OSSBN - Beginning Monday, February 14, 2011 the Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN) returned to the regular time of 6:45pm local time for the evening net.

OSSBN meets 3 times daily, 365 days a year on 3972.5 kHz. Net times are 10:30am, 4:15pm, and 6:45pm local time.

**Join us for the Friday night
WRARC Net**

9:00 P.M. on 145.270, PL -110.9

**This is a directed net, with all
interested members taking a turn
at Net Control**

- Feb. 25- KC8SOY Steve**
- March 4 - KD8OXJ Robert**
- March 11 - AB8AA Al**
- March 18 - KD8IJE Ted**
- March 25 - Home & Garden Show KC8SOY Steve**
- April 1 - KC8WY Dave**
- April 8 - AB8AA Al**

**First Wednesday of the Month
the Mahoning County**

**ARES/RACES/Skywarn training net
is held on the W8QLY repeater
146.745 (-) at 8:30P.M.**



INFO FOR LAST MINUTE FIXES

Hi everyone this KC8SOY Steve,

Winter is slowly coming to an end. The sun is shining the snow and ice is melting it will soon be time for most of us to start thinking about our out door projects such as antennas. For those last minute fixes there is still a electronics store some what in the area. Philcap has just about everything needed for electronics repair. Their address is:



Philcap Electronics Inc.
275 E. Market St.
Akron OH 44308
Ph 330-253-2109

www.manta.com/c/mm7h111/abc-philcap-electronic-splr



**NEW AMATEUR RADIO BILL INTRODUCED IN
CONGRESS**

*From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 11, 2011
To all radio amateurs*



ARLB003 - Communications Enhancement Act, which died at the end of the 111th Congress, has been reintroduced in the 112th Congress as HR 81. The sponsor is Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX-18). The new bill -- which was introduced on January 5 -- has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Rep Jackson Lee first introduced the bill -- HR 2160 -- in the 111th Congress in April 2009. It gained an additional 41 co-sponsors but did not progress out of the committee of jurisdiction. A similar bill introduced in the Senate -- S 1755 -- made it all the way through that body in December 2009, but likewise was not taken up by the House.

The objective of the bill -- which is supported by the ARRL -- is for the Secretary of Homeland Security to study the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief and to identify and make recommendations regarding impediments to Amateur Radio communications, such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations.

"We are hopeful that this early start will lead to success in the new Congress," commented ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. HR 81 can be found on the web in PDF format at, <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-112hr81ih/pdf/BILLS-112hr81ih.pdf>.

ARES

Lorain County Ohio - The Northern Ohio Digital Interconnect Group has launched Reflector 39, REF039, to support Ohio ARES, Ohio EMA offices and Ohio severe weather activities.

This planned expansion allows D-STAR users, state wide, a rally point for these public service activities. Reflector 39 will be complimented with two more reflectors in the near future allowing multiple ARES, EMA or severe weather activities to operate simultaneously. Having multiple reflectors in diverse geographic areas also add to NODIG's commitment of providing a hardened and reliable system to the amateur radio community. These reflectors will also be used to back up systems outside the state of Ohio such as the Michigan D-STAR ARES group that operates the W8SHI D-STAR repeater as well as Reflector 24.

Adding Ref039 has allowed NODIG to support its own growing Northern Ohio infrastructure as well freeing up a port on Ref038 for NODIG permlinking. This permalink will allow for future, planned, D-STAR repeaters in Lorain and surrounding counties a common link with the goal of providing portable coverage throughout the county and mobile coverage along the southern shore of Lake Erie.

Port allocations have been slightly changed and are reflected below.

REF038A The Ohio Reflector
REF038B NODIG Permalink
REF038C T.B.A.
REF039A Ohio Wide ARES
REF039B Ohio Wide EMA Offices
REF039C Ohio Wide Severe Weather

Look for more exciting announcements from NODIG in the near future. More reflectors and repeaters are in the works. NODIG will also be sponsoring D-STAR classes and discussions starting in summer 2011.

The Northern Ohio Digital Interconnect Group was formed by D-STAR users and enthusiasts from Lorain, Lake, and Cuyahoga counties to advance the technology by expanding D-STAR coverage in Northern Ohio.

D-STAR (Digital Smart Technology for Amateur Radio) is a digital 2-way radio network comprised of VHF and UHF repeater systems that can be interconnected via the Internet, on the fly. Advanced features include Automatic Unit ID, TXT/Instant Messaging and GPS unit location.

Any questions should be directed to Jeff Evans, KB8ZUN (kb8zun@gmail.com)

*ARRL Ohio Section
Section Manager: Frank J Piper, KI8GW
ki8gw@arrl.org*

FCC: FCC ADDS NEW COUNTRY TO CEPT RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT FOR AMATEURS

On Monday, February 7, the FCC released a Public Notice, adding a new country to the CEPT reciprocal operating arrangements for US citizens who hold an FCC-issued General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio licenses. US hams may now operate in Montenegro, as well as the other countries covered by the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), subject to the regulations in force in the country visited, to operate in those countries. CEPT has also set up Web sites that list all countries covered by reciprocal agreements.



SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT BILL THREATENS AMATEUR FREQUENCIES



Legislative News:
On February 10, Representative Peter King (R-NY-3), Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, introduced HR 607, the Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011. The bill has been referred to the

House Energy and Commerce Committee, which handles telecommunications legislation. HR 607 addresses certain spectrum management issues, including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network. As part of that network, the bill provides for the allocation of the so-called "D-Block" of spectrum in the 700 MHz range for Public Safety use.

The D-Block consists of two, 5-megahertz-wide segments of spectrum (758-763 and 788-793 MHz) that became available when the FCC ended analog television broadcasts in June 2009 and reallocated the 698-806 MHz band for Public Safety and commercial broadband. It was anticipated that the D-Block would be auctioned for commercial use. There are several bills in Congress providing for the allocation of the D-Block for Public Safety use, and HR 607 is one of those. But HR 607 uniquely provides for the reallocation of other spectrum for auction to commercial users, in order to offset the loss of revenue that would occur as the result of the allocation of the D-Block to Public Safety instead of commercial auction. HR 607 lists the paired bands of 420- *Continued page 5*

OHIO SECTION PIO RESIGNS NEW PIO APPOINTED

It is with regret the Emily Wells, KC8RAL of Warren, Ohio, has resigned from the post of Public Information Coordinator for the Ohio Section. Emily has served as PIC since October 2007, then appointed by Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE (SK).

I want to take this time to thank Emily for the years of service to the Ohio Section. Emily will still edit and publish the Ohio Section Journal for the Ohio Section.

To fill the vacancy of PIC, I have appointed Scott Yonally, N8SY of Mansfield to the role of Public Information Coordinator. Scott held the role of PIC for many years prior to Emily's term, and will still maintain the Ohio Section website (www.arrl-ohio.org) as part of his PIC duties.

Please welcome Scott into his new duties for the Ohio Section.

73 Frank J. Piper, KI8GW
ARRL Section Manager, Ohio



USING CHINESE HTS LEGALLY

by Capt. Ken Bourne W6HK, OC RACES Chief Radio Officer (from "NetControl"...the Newsletter of the County of Orange Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service)

The new inexpensive Chinese HTs (hand-talkies), such as the Wouxun model KG-UV3D dual-band (2 meters/440 MHz or 2 meters/220 MHz) and model KG-833 UHF-only, when purchased, are normally limited to transmit only on amateur frequencies. However, unlocking software is readily available for download, to allow the HTs to operate on Part 90 "commercial" frequencies, for which they are FCC certified. For example, the model KGUV3D, when unlocked, will transmit from 136 to 174 MHz and (in the 2-meter/440-MHz version) from 420 to 470 MHz. It features a two-band display that toggles between alphanumeric, actual frequency, or channel number per band. The KG-833 has no display, and covers 16 channels from 400 to 470 MHz. Both models provide voice annunciation when switching channels.

At less than \$120 for the dual-band model and less than \$100 for the UHF-only model, the HTs are competing with the more expensive amateur-only HTs from Japan (and the expensive commercial HTs from US and Japanese manufacturers), but are causing concern that untrained and unauthorized individuals might use them inappropriately on public-safety frequencies.

A few years ago, OCRACES officers were issued Motorola HT1250 VHF highband Hts, programmed for public-safety frequencies (such as County Admin, CLEMARS, NALEMARS, state and federal fire channels, etc.), in addition to 2-meter repeater and simplex frequencies.

The new Chinese dual-band radios can be programmed for these same frequencies, as well as public-safety UHF channels such as Blue, Amber, Maroon, CLEMARS, and MED-10. Orange County Red Cross members are programming their HTs for the Red Cross OPS-1 channel. The Chinese HTs will comply with the Part 90 narrowband regulations that go into effect on January 1, 2013. Therefore, any HTs currently used by OCSD Search & Rescue on Blue channel, for example, that are not "narrowbandable," may be replaced inexpensively. Several OCSD Reserve Deputies and PSRs have already purchased these HTs for use on Blue and other OCSD channels, and, if they are radio amateurs, also for use on the ham bands.

Another concern is that non-amateurs who purchase these Chinese HTs might be tempted to "bootleg" on amateur frequencies, since they are easily programmed for amateur use. Therefore, we in RACES must be diligent in preventing illegal operations, either by non-amateurs invading our RACES repeaters, or by amateurs transmitting on public-safety frequencies without authorization and training.

The new Chinese Part 90 HTs must never be programmed to transmit on GMRS, FRS, and MURS frequencies. Such operation is illegal, since those services fall under FCC Part 95, for which the HTs are not certified. Some amateur-only HTs can be modified to transmit on Part 90 frequencies, but that is illegal. Noncertified HTs can cause spurious emissions that could interfere with adjacent-channel communications.

Stolen from OCARC RF Newsletter – 2011 February



HAMFESTS IN THE OHIO SECTION



Here are the upcoming Hamfests in Ohio for March:

- 3-12-2011: MOVARC Hamfest in Gallipolis (ASM Connie Hamilton, N8IO will attend for the Ohio Section)

- 3-20-2011: TMRA Hamfest / Computer Pair in Perrysburg. (ACC Mike McCardel, KC8YLD will attend for the Ohio Section)

As a reminder, the Hamfest organizers have the responsibility to order ARRL materials for their ARRL Table. Upon the ARRL confirming the Hamfest is ARRL Sanctioned, the Hamfest organizers are sent an e-mail giving instruction on how to order ARRL handouts, flyers, etc. Please take advantage of this free service from the League!

Frank, KI8GW
ARRL Section Manager, Ohio

HR 607 - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

440 MHz and 450-470 MHz among the bands to be reallocated for commercial auction within 10 years of its passage.

"Of serious concern to the ARRL is the inclusion of the 420-440 MHz amateur allocation in the list of frequencies to be cleared for auction," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "The ARRL and the Amateur Radio community certainly support the work of public safety agencies and understand their desire for an interoperable network; however, the inclusion of most of the amateur 70 cm spectrum as one of the replacement bands is illogical and unacceptable. The 420-440 MHz band is not Public Safety spectrum and should never have been included in any spectrum swap of Public Safety allocations."

Saying that the ARRL Washington team has already begun meeting with key Congressional staff on Capitol Hill, Henderson noted that Amateur Radio already shares the 70 cm band on a secondary basis with the governmental radiolocation services, such as the PAVE PAWS radar systems: "The 70 cm band is a critical and irreplaceable resource for Amateur Radio public service and emergency communications. The specification of the 420-440 MHz band in this legislation is ill-conceived. To be sure, the ARRL will vigorously oppose this legislation in its present form. It is, as evidenced by other legislation, completely unnecessary to the creation of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network or the use by Public Safety of the D-Block for that purpose. The role of the Amateur Service as a partner to Public Safety in the provision of public service and emergency communications necessitates the retention of full access to the entire 420-440 MHz band."

HR 607 is presently cosponsored by the Homeland Security Committee's Ranking Member, Representative Bennie Thompson (D-MS-2) as well as Representatives Shelley Berkley (D-NV-1), Yvette Clarke (D-NY-11), Billy Long (R-MO-7), Candice S. Miller (R-MI-10), Laura Richardson (D-CA-37), Mike Rogers (R-AL-3), and Michael Grimm (R-NY-13).

I need every PIO, club and ham we can get to write to their congressional representative in opposition to the bill as it is written.

Because of their security measures, it will NOT do any good to mail them direct.

You can send an email, but PLEASE fill in the sections of the attached letter for your own representative and then send it to Chwat & Co who will HAND DELIVER it – making sure your letter gets noticed! <http://www.arrl.org/sample-letters> After filling in the blanks, send to:

John Chwat
Chwat & Co.
625 Slaters Lane

Suite 103
Alexandria, VA 22314

By Fax - Send to: 703-684-7594 You may also send a signed letter via email to: arrl@chwatco.com This is an "all hands on deck" and we're going to need all the people we can get PDQ or we lose 440.

<http://www.arrl.org/contacting-your-congressional-representatives> this page gives you who your congress person is.

Allen Pitts, W1AGP
Media & PR Manager
ARRL - the national association for Amateur Radio
225 Main St. Newington, CT 06111
(860) 594-0328
www.ARRL.org

Government is not reason; it is not eloquent; it is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.

George Washington

THE NEXT TO THE LAST CHAPTER OF THE
BAND PASS FILTERS PROJECT

After the problems of last month and everything I found out, I started to rebuild the BPF's. I found out very quickly that the new design was a lot more robust than the older one. I completed the 20-meter BPF, since it was the easier one to build. Using the procedures from the ham that is helping me, I first tuned the input and output circuits. With the new tuning procedure they came right in to spec. Then I installed the connecting circuit and tuned it. What a surprise, the BPF was 1:1 across the band. The only way I can tune them is with an MFJ antenna analyzer.

With that in mind I rebuilt the 15-meter and the 10-meter BPF's. I had the same results with them both. They took about 4 hours each to build and tune up. Since I do not have the special test equipment to do all the final tuning, I have sent them off to the ham that has been helping me with the project. He has received them and at this time I do not know how they are. I will know more by next month and hope to have them back soon.

More from here next month, looks like I still have my sanity



73 Allan, AB8AA

IT'S A BIRD, IT'S A PLANE! NO, IT'S AN ASTEROID -- ASTEROID (31531) ARRL, TO BE EXACT!



These three images were made on February 9, 1999 with the Spacewatch .9 meter telescope on Kitt Peak (about 45 miles southwest of the city of Tucson, at 6850 feet altitude). This main-belt asteroid was discovered by software and confirmed in the images by the observer on duty on that date Jeffrey Larsen, PhD. The asteroid is moving across the field of stars near the center, from lower left to upper right. The images were taken every 30 minutes in order to see how fast and in what direction the asteroid was moving. Time proceeds from left to right. [Observations of Minor Planet (31531) ARRL by Prof Jeffrey A. Larsen for the Spacewatch Project of the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, University of Arizona, funded in 1999 by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the US Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the Steven and Michele Kirsch Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. © 1999 by the Arizona Board of Regents] [Click here for a larger image.](#)

John, Paul, George and Ringo are on the list. Mozart, Bach, Beethoven and Brahms -- even Frank Zappa and Elvis (but not Madonna). Of course Asimov and Sagan made the cut, Mr Spock, too, but not Captain Kirk. And now ARRL -- more precisely, (31531) ARRL -- joins this prestigious company as one of more than 16,000 named minor planets in our solar system. A minor planet -- such as an asteroid -- is an astronomical object in direct orbit around the Sun that is neither a dominant planet -- such as Mercury, Saturn and Neptune -- nor a comet. The first minor planet -- named Ceres -- was discovered in 1801. Since then, more than 200,000 minor planets have been discovered, most of them lying in the asteroid belt. But as of July 27, 2010, only 16,005 had been named.

Approximately 2.5-4 miles (3-7 km) long -- (31531) ARRL orbits the Sun at a distance of 2.7 Astronomical Units (AU) (1 AU is the distance from the Earth to the Sun, about 93 million miles, or almost 150 million km). It is currently located near the boundary of the constellations Scorpio and Libra and is about 2.1 AU distant from the Earth. It takes (31531) ARRL almost five years to orbit the Sun.

At a magnitude of brightness of 19.5, (31531) ARRL is extremely faint. This is almost 15 magnitudes fainter than the human eye can see from most cities and towns; 5 magnitudes is a factor of 100 in brightness, so this object (at its time of discovery)

was about $100 \times 100 \times 100$, or 1 million times fainter than the naked eye can see. The asteroid remains about 19th magnitude most of the time and does not brighten considerably, so (31531) ARRL will never be seen with the naked eye (unless via spacecraft). Even though it is faint, it is probably within the range of a moderate to large amateur telescope equipped with a CCD.

Joe Montani, W7DXW -- senior research specialist with the Spacewatch Near-Earth Asteroid Project Lunar and Planetary Lab at the University of Arizona -- told the ARRL that he had discovered (31531) ARRL in his work discovering and observing Near-Earth Asteroids (NEAs). He said he had received confirmation that the asteroid had been officially named as of July 27; it can take 10 years or more for the smaller objects -- such as asteroids, dwarf planets and comets -- to receive names. (31531) ARRL was discovered in 1999.

"The naming was proposed to the International Astronomical Union (IAU) Committee on Small Bodies Nomenclature (CSBN), and was accepted by the CSBN and published to the world on July 27, 2010 at about 1900 UTC," Montani said. "The full name of the object is (31531) ARRL. The number in parenthesis is the so-called 'permanent number' that an asteroid receives after its orbit is sufficiently accurately determined so that it can never become 'lost.' 'ARRL, is, of course, the acronym of the American Radio Relay League."

All proposed names are judged by the CSBN, which is comprised of professional astronomers with research interests connected with minor planets and/or comets from around the world. The name must also be 16 characters or less in length, preferably one word, pronounceable in at least one language, non-offensive and not too similar to an existing name of a minor planet or natural planetary satellite. The names of individuals or events principally known for political or military activities are unsuitable until 100 years after the death of the individual or the occurrence of the event. Names of pet animals are discouraged, and names of a purely or principally commercial nature are not allowed.

In proposing to name an object, the proposer must supply the IAU committee a brief written citation, no more than four lines of ASCII text of 78 characters per line, formatted in a special way. "The full text of the citation I wrote for (31531) ARRL contains information about the ARRL that I gleaned from the ARRL Web site," Montani explained. "With the announcement of the naming, the citation is published and recorded for all time. The citation serves as an explanation of the naming and gives a sense of the motivation for it."

The citation for (31531) ARRL reads: "Since 1914, the American Radio Relay League has been the largest membership organization *Continued page 7*

of radio amateurs in the US. ARRL promotes interest in 'ham' radio and experimentation, maintains high standards of conduct and fraternalism among hams and represents their interests in matters legislative."

Prior to the object receiving its permanent number, Montani said that (31531) ARRL was known by its permanent designation of 1999 CQ137. "I selected this object for naming from among the many thousands discovered by Spacewatch," he told the ARRL. "It seemed fitting to me that 'CQ' should be in the designation. In addition, the number 137 is also significant to physicists and engineers and perhaps to radio amateurs: It is the reciprocal of the 'fine-structure constant' that depends on the square of the charge on the electron, the speed of light, Planck's constant and the permittivity of free space. This object seemed to have it all for us!"

Montani discovered (31531) ARRL using the .9 meter (36 inch) Steward Observatory Spacewatch telescope, located on Kitt Peak outside of Tucson, Arizona. The telescope, which saw first light in 1921, was also the telescope that was used to discover the 30 Hz pulsar located in the center of the Crab Nebula. In 1980, Tom Gehrels and Bob McMillan founded the Spacewatch program. The primary goal of Spacewatch is to explore the various populations of small objects in the solar system and study the statistics of asteroids and comets in order to investigate the dynamical evolution of the solar system. CCD scanning studies the Centaur, Trojan, Main-Belt, Trans-Neptunian and Earth-approaching asteroid populations. Spacewatch also finds potential targets for interplanetary spacecraft missions, provides follow-up astrometry of such targets and finds objects that might present a hazard to the Earth.

AN IDEA FOR THIS YEAR'S FIELD DAY

For Field Day PR, the Olive Branch ARC tried a new approach toward attracting folks to their operating site. KD5CKP purchased two 'House Radios' off of E Bay. These low powered radios operate in the upper part of the AM Broadcast Band and are placed by realtors in front of houses that are for sale. A small sign placed in the yard of the property tells the prospective buyer what frequency to listen to on their car radio to get details on the house that is for sale. Seeing that non-hams are sometimes reluctant to approach a site with wires everywhere and strange noises coming from little boxes, the Olive Branch

Club placed a sign and a 'House Box' near their Field Day Site in City Park. After listening to the pre-recorded message over their AM Radios by KD5CKP explaining what was going on at the Field Day Site, the Olive Branch Club had many more visitors than they would normally have had. Great Idea!

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that I am interested in, but no one else seems to be. I have tried to do an antenna building workshop, but no one was interested. What are YOU interested in learning?

We need to learn how to do emergency communications and be able to demonstrate it to the EMA. It is not IF, but WHEN an emergency will happen. We need to be ready.

You need to understand that most of the people in this area have not had an emergency in 30 years. To be complacent and do nothing is the wrong attitude. Jane and I have been involved in several real emergencies in CA. There is only one way to get good at this, PRACTICE, PRACTICE and more PRACTICE. We need to work on being better at emergency communications. We need to learn new digital modes of operation.

One of the reasons that Amateur Radio is still around is that we are one of the primary communications services that can work in any emergency. This is why we are called the Amateur Radio Service by the FCC. Without that they would sell off all the frequencies and we would cease to exist.

This is how I see the direction in which we are going, but it is up to you to prove me wrong. Let's all get involved and work to make this club the best around.

*'Till next month,
73 Allan, AB8AA*

AMATEUR MF ALLOCATION MOVES A STEP CLOSER



Amateur Radio has moved a step closer to a medium frequency (MF) allocation below the AM broadcast band. During the first week of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for the 2012 World Radio communication Conference (WRC-12) of the International Telecommunication Union, held in Geneva February 14-25, delegates completed the drafting of nine pages of analysis of the technical and regulatory issues related to WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.23: consideration of a possible secondary allocation to the Amateur Service of about 15 kHz somewhere between 415 and 526.5 kHz. Two possible methods of satisfying the agenda item, along with the possibility of there being no change (and therefore no allocation), are set out in the CPM Report, along with the advantages and disadvantages of each.

WRC-12 will be held in Geneva next year from January 23 to February 17.

March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 ARES Net 8:30 P.M. 146.745	3	4 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	5
6	7	8 Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Community Breakfast	9	10	11 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	12
13 WRARC Board Meeting 7:00P.M. Daylight Savings time begins	14	15 WRARC Meeting 7:00P.M.	16	17 	18 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	19
20	21	22 Eat'n Park Boardman 8:30 A.M. Ham Cmmnty Breakfast Skywarn Austintown Fitch HS 5:30P.M.	23	24	25 H&G Show 12PM - 9PM WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	26 H&G Show 10AM - 9PM
27 H&G Show 10AM - 5PM	28	29 Happy Birthday WB8LCD 	30 Happy Birthday KD8NFD 	31	April 1 WRARC Net 9:00PM 145.270	2