



Short Skip

Volume 66 Issue 9

September 2018

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REPEATERS

Freq	Location
147.000	Merrillville
147.240	St. John
442.075	Merrillville

All Lake County ARC Repeaters are open to all amateurs. All repeaters must have a PL of 131.8 set in order to access.

FROM THE PARADE STAND

by Tim, N9CA, LCARC President



Saturday, September 8th is our annual LCARC picnic and Indiana Parks On The Air (INPOTA) event. We will be using specialty call sign N9D. Set up is at the Indiana Dunes State Park Tremont Shelter beginning 9ish. Park entry fee - per car - is \$7.

If the weather cooperates we will be operating off-the-grid, and cooking on-the-grill. If there is some food item or beverage you would like to bring for yourself - or to share - it would be appreciated though the Club will provide the essentials. We will have two or three operating positions on various HF bands with logging computers. Seriously, this event is a lot of fun.

For non-ham family members there are; hiking trails, the beach, a Nature Center, the National Lake Shore Visitor's Center, and a large "European Farmers Market" in historic downtown Chesterton. A short drive down scenic US 12 takes you to the Michigan City Light House Place Discount Mall. Just two blocks East from LH Mall are lots of other unique shops downtown.

Fractal Antenna Systems, Inc., established by noted radio amateur and inventor Nathan Cohen, W1YW, continues to stretch the technological boundaries of belief. In an August 15 news release, the firm confirmed the issuance of its newest patents that will enable the next generation of stealth-like invisibility and absorptive shielding. The firm pioneered and has invented (wait for it....) invisibility cloaks.

Recently issued patent 10,027,033 is a continuation of that state-of-the-art innovation. It discloses a novel means of turning invisibility cloaks on and off, by changing the characteristics of a boundary layer. Now the person or sensor inside the cloak is no longer "blind". Cohen experimented with and started the company with parts he purchased at a local Hamfest.

UPCOMING

- September 8th - Tippicanoe Hamfest Lafayette Indiana (hey.. what about INPOTA?)
 - September 14-16 -- W9DXCC Convention, Schaumburg, Illinois (www.w9dxcc.com)
 - September 15th| Peoria Superfest Location: Peoria, IL
 - November 17th Central Division Convention (Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo) Location: Fort Wayne, IN, Type: ARRL Convention, Sponsor: Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society, Website: <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>
- Next Club Meeting: Friday September 14th at 7:30pm. The Program: "Getting Started with FT8"

SIERRA BAY, WASHINGTON - A Lafayette Parrish amateur radio operator has a unique solution for his love of DX, but his lack of cash.

"I always wanted to travel the world setting up DXpeditions from rare and desirable locations. So this is the next best thing!" exclaims retired landscaper Arthur Gibbons.

Gibbons says his meager savings won't allow global travel, so instead he's devised an economical plan.

"Each week," says the avid DX-er, "I travel to a different ethnic restaurant and set up my portable QRP rig in the parking lot. My homemade HF antenna on top of the push-up pole sure radiates on all that asphalt!"

So far this month, Gibbons has operated from the "Isle of Sardinia" Italian restaurant, the "Taste of Baghdad" middle eastern restaurant and the "Nairobi Diner" east African eatery.

Look for Gibbons on 20 meter CW next week at "Roberto's Taqueria (Wednesday) and "Our Wurst is Best" German restaurant (Friday).

By WBØRUR, on the scene ### HamHijinks.com

MEETING MINUTES

August 10, 2018 — Russ, KB9HO

Meeting called to order at 6:35PM

Quick notes

Bowman Electronics will do tower climbing and antenna system repair.

- W9AMT has petitioned about new Indiana license plate on Facebook.
- Mark will do another program for the Porter Amateur Radio Club on September 7 on 3D printing. Will be at West Chester Library in Chesterton Indiana with a dinner following the meeting.
- INPOTA will be on September 8 on Saturday at the Dunes State Park Tremont Shelter. N9D call sign will be used.
- Paul, Deputy Director for Home Land Security Lake County popped in to ask for volunteers for a Drill on November 7 involving communications at several health facilities in the area. Tim took down the information to be presented at the next club meeting.
- The Presenter for tonight's program is Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA. His web site is <http://k9la.us> where you will find more information about him. He will talk about propagation.
- Program started at 6:45PM
- Meeting was closed around 8:00PM so Carl would be able to get home to Fort Wayne. The presentation was very informative and interesting.

CONSENT DECREE SETTLES FCC NONCOMPLIANT DRONE TRANSMITTERS MARKETING CASE

ARRL 8/22/2018

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has entered into a Consent Decree with Horizon Hobby, LLC to resolve a case involving the marketing and sale of noncompliant audio/video (A/V) transmitters intended for use on drones. The Consent Decree was attached to an FCC Order released on August 16. The Enforcement Bureau said the transmitters violated the FCC's equipment marketing and Amateur Radio rules.

"These laws ensure that radio frequency devices comply with the Commission's technical requirements and do not interfere with authorized communications," the Enforcement Bureau said. "Because the noncompliant A/V transmitters could operate in bands that are reserved for important operations, including Federal Aviation Administration Terminal Doppler Weather Radar, they must not be marketed or operated by anyone. Moreover, entities that rely on amateur frequencies in operating compliant A/V transmitters must have an amateur license and otherwise comply with all applicable laws for such operation."

In the Consent Decree, Horizon Hobby concedes that it marketed A/V transmitters that did not comply with FCC equipment marketing rules. The company has agreed to implement a compliance plan and to pay a \$35,000 civil penalty.

On December 20, 2017, the Bureau's Spectrum Enforcement Division issued a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) to Horizon Hobby, directing it to respond to a series of questions relating to its marketing of A/V used with drones in the US. "The investigation revealed that some of the A/V transmitters Horizon Hobby marketed were capable of operating outside of the authorized Amateur Radio Service bands, but were not certified or otherwise compliant with the Rules. These A/V transmitters are considered intentional radiators and must comply with the Equipment Marketing Rules."

The FCC said that after it received the LOI, the company stopped marketing the noncompliant A/V transmitters.

A privately held limited liability company, Horizon Hobby advertises and sells fully assembled drones through several websites, as well as parts and accessories for those systems.

NEED HELP?

Call on these Elmers

- Tim, N9CS, asked people to be Elmers. Here is the list: Tim N9CA
- Bill N4GIX
- Bill Young N9QLS
- Russ KB9HO
- Andy W9FXT.
- Also it was mentioned ark K9MQ is an ARRL Tech Specialist and can be called on.

The club has been informed that Bowman Electronics in Valparaiso will do tower climbing and antenna repair. Give them a call at: (219) 462-7933 or stop and see them at: 504 Marquette St, Valparaiso, IN 46383

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

The name of the presentation is "Early AM Radiators." Warren Schulz who was going to make a presentation on early antenna/tower designs but he is unable to make it. HOWEVER, he did send Bill, N4GIX all the info so our trusty Vice-President will be doing the presentation. Looks as if it might be interesting.

CORRECTION!

Last month in Mark, K9MQ's article he said that Carcross is in Alaska. He later informed me that Carcross is in the Yukon Territory in Canada, not Alaska



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directly to our web page
w9lj.org

FCC CITES BAOFENG IMPORTER FOR ILLEGALLY MARKETING UNAUTHORIZED RF DEVICES

from ARRL Letter



The FCC has issued a Citation and Order ([Citation](#)) to [Amcrest Industries, LLC](#) (formerly Foscam Digital Technologies, LLC), an importer and marketer of popular and inexpensive Baofeng handheld transceivers, alleging that the company violated FCC rules and the Communications Act by illegally marketing unauthorized RF devices. The FCC asserts that Amcrest marketed Baofeng model UV-5R-series FM handheld radios capable of transmitting on "restricted frequencies." The Baofeng models UV-5R and UV-5R V2+ were granted an FCC [equipment authorization](#) in 2012 to operate under Part 90 Private Land Mobile Radio Service (Land Mobile) rules.

"Under § 2.803 of the Commission's rules, an entity may not market a device that is capable of operating outside the scope of its equipment authorization," the FCC Citation said. "RF devices that have been authorized under Part 90 rules, such as the model as issue, must operate within the technical parameters established in those rules." The FCC also maintained that the UV-5R 2+ is capable of operating at 1 W or 4 W, while the Part 90 Equipment Authorization limits the power output to 1.78 W.

Amcrest conceded that the units were capable of operating on restricted frequencies but told the FCC that, per discussions with the manufacturer, were "only capable of operating at 1 W, the FCC said. The company instructed the manufacturer to fix the problem and later confirmed with the manufacturer that all Amcrest inventory on order and in the future would operate only on 145 - 155 MHz and 400 - 520 MHz.

While the Citation does not mention Amateur Radio, the UV-5R series radios can be programmed in a channelized configuration to function on 2 meters and 70 centimeters. According to the Citation, Amcrest had added a warning in its user manuals and marketing and sales materials implying that the UV-5R V2+ could operate on unauthorized and restricted frequencies, including Part 87 Aviation Services frequencies, Part 80 Maritime Services frequencies, and frequencies reserved for federal government use.

Amcrest told the FCC that it had ceased marketing four models in the Baofeng UV-5R series "a few years ago," but it did not remove them from its website until last February. Numerous online retailers continue selling UV-5R series radios for less than \$25, with some ads indicating that these are "ham" equipment. [Read more.](#)



Back in March of 2008 an ENCOMM (emergency communications) case that I built was featured in an article in Pop Comm magazine (I got a free year's subscription as payment!). Anyway, the case is a standard 19" rack case with removable covers for each end. Inside it has a built-in 12VDC 25 Amp switching power supply, a Furman multi-outlet strip/surge suppressor, a digital volt meter, and a 12VDC auto accessory plug (charging HTS, Cell Phones, etc.) built in. It also has one rack shelf for mounting radios or other items. At the rear are two cables terminated in PowerPole connectors as well as two additional PowerPole outlets for other devices. The unit does NOT have a built-in battery (I am not Charlie Atlas) but one can easily be used by unplugging the PowerPole connector on the lower right, which disconnects the built-in supply, and plugging in a battery.

There is enough room for most small HF radios (I have used it with a TS-2000) or multiple dual band radios, or whatever you desire.

Well, long story short. My EMCOMM days are over so I would like to sell this unit to a deserving ham. **[RADIOS ARE NOT INCLUDED . . . YOU CAN INSTALL WHATEVER YOU WANT.](#)** It DOES include the surge protector, the power supply, the volt meter and DC Plug. Contact John, W9WY at (219) 922-1065 and we can talk.

CONCERN RISING WITHIN AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY OVER WWV-WWVH SHUT DOWN PROPOSAL ARRL 08/21/2018

ARRL members and Amateur Radio clubs are expressing increased concern over the inclusion of WWV and WWVH on a list of proposed cuts in the White House's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Fiscal Year 2019 budget request. The proposed cuts also would include the Atomic Clock signal from WWVB used to synchronize specially equipped clocks and watches. Online petitions soliciting signatures include one established by Tom Kelly II, W7NSS, of Portland, Oregon, who would like to see funding for the stations maintained. At this point, the budget item is only a proposal, not a final decision. That would be up to the Congress to decide.

ARRL is among those worried over the possible loss of WWV, WWVH, and WWVB and is suggesting that members of the Amateur Radio community who value the stations for their precise time and frequency signals and other information sign Kelly's petition and/or contact their members of Congress promptly, explaining how the stations are important to them, beyond government and military use.

Kelly's petition, which may be signed by US residents, notes that WWV is among the oldest radio stations in the US, having been established in 1920. "The station has transmitted the official US time for nearly 100 years, and is an instrumental part in the telecommunications field, ranging from broadcasting to scientific research and education," his petition says. "Additionally, these stations transmit marine storm warnings from the National Weather Service, GPS satellite health reports, and specific information concerning current solar activity and radio propagation conditions. These broadcasts are an essential resource to the worldwide communications industry."

NIST's full Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 budget request to Congress calls for the agency to "discontinue the dissemination of the US time and frequency via the NIST radio stations in Hawaii and Fort Collins, Colorado." The agency noted, "These radio stations transmit signals that are used to synchronize consumer electronic products like wall clocks, clock radios, and wristwatches, and may be used in other applications like appliances, cameras, and irrigation controllers." The specific cut, which would come from the NIST Fundamental Measurement, Quantum Science, and Measurement Dissemination budget, would amount to \$6.3 million.

In its budget request, NIST said that it plans to consolidate and focus work on its efforts in quantum science while maintaining essential core capabilities in measurement science research and measurement dissemination, as well as eliminate "efforts that have been replaced by newer technologies, measurement science research that lies outside NIST's core mission space, and programs that can no longer be supported due to facility deterioration."

WWV and WWVH broadcast time and frequency information 24/7, including time announcements, standard time intervals, standard frequencies, UT1 time corrections, a BCD time code, geophysical alerts, and marine storm warnings. Transmissions are broadcast from separate transmitters on 5, 10, 15, and 20 MHz. An experimental 25 MHz signal is also currently on the air. WWVB transmits standard Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) signals on 60 kHz to appropriately equipped timekeeping devices.

3D PRINTED PARTS FOR HAM RADIO

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU



One of the things that I keep telling myself that I need to learn how to do is 3D printing. This morning, I ran across a couple more 3D printing projects for

ham radio that I thought I'd pass along.

The first I found on reddit: 3D Printed Parts for Portable Tape Measure Yagi Designs (https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/963br3/3d_printed_parts_for_portable_tape_measure_yagi/)

(<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:3042505>). The summary on Thingiverse (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:3042505>), which is a website where "makers" share their designs, says:

These parts are made for use with 1-in. PVC pipe and 1-in. Harbor Freight tape measure steel. You can use electrical tape to attach the element holders to the side of the pipe, and use the driven element bridge to give structural rigidity across the driven dipole element. I have used this with up to 5 elements on 2m with good success. When not using the antenna, just pinch the elements to remove them from the holders, and store them INSIDE the tube! you can add some end caps to make this ultra portable. Use these parts with any of the multitude of tape measure YAGI design guides online.

Here's a look at an antenna made with these parts:

The element holders are attached to the boom with electrical tape in the photo above. While I haven't tried it, I'd suggest that the antenna might be a bit more robust if you could screw or perhaps glue the holders to the boom.

There are lots of other cool amateur radio 3D printing projects available on Thingiverse (<https://www.thingiverse.com/search?q=ham+radio&dwh=415b6d8da129c3c>). Browsing through the list quickly, here are just two that look like they might be useful to me:

- Soldering Fingers (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:1725308>). This project looks simple and quick.
- µBitx Case (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:2925336>). I still gotta do something with the µBitx I bought. This looks like it might get me started.

Finally getting in gear

Last week, I attended a 3D printing class at our local maker space, All Hands Active (allhandsactive.org), and now I feel like I can finally attempt a 3D printing project. I'm thinking about starting out with the simple Soldering Fingers project. If that goes well, I'll try a Raspberry Pic case and finally start using that in the shack. And, while these projects all seem pretty cool, I feel like I'm only scratching the surface.

Have any of you 3D printed anything cool for your ham radio projects? Is there another source of designs for ham radio 3D printed stuff besides Thingiverse?

When he's not 3D printing enclosures for his ham radio projects, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him about your experiences with 3D printing at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

New Event Brings Hams Together

By K5KVN, on the scene

RACINE, WASHINGTON — A local ham radio group is pioneering a new way to bring ham radio operators together and clean up the airwaves at the same time.

The Northwest Operators In Several Events club (NOISE) will host “QRMing In The Park” this Saturday at the downtown dog park.

“The whole concept came about as a way to let some of these LIDS release their frustrations in a safe setting, all at the same time – and most importantly – on the same frequency,” said NOISE president Zeke Anderson. “Let’s give them this one chance to get it all out, then they won’t QRM at random times,” he added.

Amateur radio operator Myron Goldman says he likes the idea. “The barking dogs in the background will be a really nice touch,” he said.

Suggested items to bring to the event include:

- Transmitter (preferably misaligned as to encourage splatter)
- Antenna with high SWR
- Straight key that can accommodate a brick set upon the key
- Sound effects app on your phone
- A referee’s whistle or other noise-making device
- A dish suitable for potluck lunch

By K5KVN, on the scene

HamHijinks.com

Maybe we can work some of these stations when we participate in the INPOTA event at the Dunes - ed

FCC Orders Ban of All Baofengs Because Too Many Hams Accidentally Transmit That Awful Siren Tone on the repeater

By K5KVN, on the scene



WASHINGTON, D.C. — In a decision that most ham radio operators knew would eventually happen, The Federal Communications Commission has ruled that Baofeng radios with the built-in audible siren feature can no longer be sold in the U.S.

Most of the handheld radios made by Baofeng come with a siren that can easily be activated at the touch of a button. Radio operators have been inundated with the annoying sound at hamfests, club meetings and on the air.

The Gold Diggers Amateur Radio Club were the first group to complain to the FCC.

“Our local repeater sounds like Firehouse 5 responding to a 3-alarm fire,” said Gold Diggers President Lou Rodden in a letter submitted during public comment on the issue.

At a recent club meeting, Rodden described the siren. “It goes WEEE WOOO WEEE WOOO, and at the same time a flashing LED rapidly blinks. The ear-piercing noise and the flashing light is enough to send anyone into a seizure,” he said.

Ham Hijinks has obtained an audio recording of a recent episode of siren interference. If you want to listen to the recording [click here](#).

The Gold Diggers will celebrate the FCC decision with a “Burn Your Baofeng” event this weekend.

HamHijinks.com

Continued from 4

NIST Public Relations Director Gail Porter told Tom Witherspoon, K4SWL — editor of The SWLing Post, which has been tracking developments — that NIST “is proud of the time and frequency services we provide through our radio stations, and understands that these services are important to many people.”

NIST Director Walter Copan has supported the overall budget request. “This budget request ensures that NIST can continue to work at the frontiers of measurement science by preserving investment in core metrology research,” Copan said. “Through its constitutionally mandated role, NIST performs work that only the government can do, and produces enormous return on US taxpayers’ investment. Translating measurements into technically sound standards across all industries enables effective international trade and US competitiveness.”

Website of Interest

click on the links to go to the website

FOR SALE: Got some radio gear for sale? Looking for some radio gear to purchase? Check out the new FOR SALE page on the club’s website — <https://lcarc.weebly.com/for-sale>. Scroll down to see the most current items or click on the ARCHIVE section to see items for sale in previous months. If you have something that has been sold, be sure to contact John, [W9WY for information](#) to have your listing removed. There is no charge for club members to list their items. This is a service for members.