



# SHORT SKIP

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE  
**LAKE COUNTY AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB, INC.  
W9LJ**

June 2014, Issue 6, Volume 62

## From Your Editor

**Benjamin Straw, KC9UNS**

I want to apologise for the heavy news this month, I felt that a lot of what is going on in our wonderful hobby had to be shared, I also figured since we had a lot drooling going on from all the lookie lookie last month, you can take a break read hi hi.

Its Springtime and I bet your honey do lists and spring cleaning is in full swing, If you would like to list an ham radio or computer related things on Short Skip, please let me know. As you can see on page 2 John W9WY and myself have taken advantage and listed some things we would like to part with.

On Saturday September 6th, LCARC will be having its annual (4th I think) N9D Indiana parks on the Air and Club Cookout at the Indiana State Dunes - Tremont Shelter. Setup will begin at 10:00 AM with the contest starting at 11. Fires will be lit just after. Everyone is invited to come out and have a great time. The club will be providing the meat, so all you are required to bring is side dish, something to drink and your appetite (Don't know if I'm making chili yet). If you plan on operating N9D you will also be required to bring a copy of your amateur radio licence. We plan on operating N9D till about 4:00 PM so come early. As a note the park has an entrance fee of \$5 for Indiana residents and \$7 for non residents and this is per vehicle.

I was having a conversation with a ham on Facebook and a question about building a mobile screwdriver came up, I had never built one before(I bet some members have) I had mentioned that I don't have the tools required to complete the task. He did but was missing a pipe threader. If you don't have a tool you can rent one from Home Depot for the day or week. Or in his case have them thread pipes it for you. Lowes also offers this service if you purchase the pipe from them. He plans on recording the build in high quality HD and uploading to Youtube. If I see it I'll let you know about it.

A few months ago I think I talked about a ham in southern Indiana Ham Don Miller, W9NTP a recent article from Vocativ (<http://www.vocativ.com/culture/art-culture/indianas-real-indiana-jones/>) Dives into his life and why the FBI raided his home on April 1st. Have a read from the link above.

I was reading some posts on regedit, one came up about Vanity call signs and W5IY. A lot of people don't like doing paperwork, myself included. Besides the extra money it takes about the same time to fill everything out and you save money going to the fcc website and doing it yourself. Well it can hardly even be called paperwork. If you do it through the FCC ULS, it's easy. Here's a wikihow: <http://tinyurl.com/easyfcculs>  
The hardest part will be receiving your FRN, which you'll need to do anyway if you ever need to change your address, or renew your license. Here's how to get your FRN: <http://www.w5yi.org/page.php?id=100>  
To me, it's not worth the extra \$20 to have W5YI do this for you.

Last if you have anything you would like to add to Short Skip or just want to comment, hit me up my email is below.  
Benjamin Straw KC9UNS Secretary, Editor, and Nut Controller

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Meeting

June 13, 2014

**Lake County EMA Building**  
2900 W 93rd Ave. Crown Point, In.  
General Meeting: 7:30 PM  
Board: 6:30 PM

### Club Event

Sat September 6, 2014

**N9D - Indiana Parks On The Air and Club Cookout**  
Indiana Dunes State Park - Tremont Shelter  
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Side Dish and Appetite Required

### Hamfest

Sat June 7, 2014

**Independent Repeater Association Hamfest**  
Hudsonville Fairground  
5235 Park Avenue,  
Hudsonville, MI 49426

Sun June 15, 2014

**6 Meter Club of Chicago Hamfest & ARCI Radio Swap Meet**  
DuPage Country Fairgrounds  
2015 Manchester Rd., Wheaton, Illinois

### Net

**LCARC Weekly Information Net**  
Clubs VHF & UHF Repeaters  
Every Thursday @ 8:00 PM

## In this Issue of Short Skip

- 2. Meeting Minutes, For Sale
- 3 - 6. Ham News
- 7. QRZ, Teletype
- 8. Membership Form

### ARTICLES NEEDED!!!

If you have anything pertaining to amateur radio that you would like to contribute to, and share with others in Short Skip, we would be happy to include your offering in any future edition. Anything you would like. Hints and kinks, antennas, technical talk, operating tips, public service, classic radio, club activities, etc., would be heartily welcomed!!! All articles must be in by the 23rd of every month. Copyright rules and permission apply to all submissions. Please send your submission to:  
KC9UNS / Short Skip Editor  
[kc9uns@gmail.com](mailto:kc9uns@gmail.com)

I hope you enjoy this month's Short Skip as much as I did putting it together!



**Kenny KE9TC**  
**Lawrence KB9ERY**  
**John W9WY**  
**Ed K9TZZ**  
**Dan KC9ZEK**

If we missed your birthday or get it wrong, please let us know

# Meeting Minutes

Benjamin Straw, KC9UNS

Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM

Attendance: 18 Attendees

### Reading of Minutes:

The minutes of the previous board meeting read by Ben KC9UNS was approved

### Treasure Report:

Treasurer Report read by Jim KF9EX and was approved as read

### Committee reports:

- Red Cross: None
- DX: 10 Meters Sucks according to Ben KC9UNS
- RACES: Jim KF9EX reported the EMA ordered a G5RV and showed it off, he also reported the feedline which they thought was bad, it was not the rope was bad. This is a good thing because the old antenna is giving them fits due to the current antenna hitting the mass when windy.
- Net: Ben KC9UNS Reported we had 99 people show have checked in since we started logging who checked in.
- Membership: Jim KF9EX reported the club is now up to 47 members as of the meeting

### Old Business:

- Indiana QSO Party was a bust

### New Business

- Board approved the event Indiana Parks on the air (INPOTA) and club cookout/picnic on September 6th at the Tremont Shelter within the Indiana Dunes State Park
- Andy W9FXT reported on the Dairy Air show (The South Shore Air Show at Fair Oaks Farms) July 11-13 More info about the show can be found at [tinyurl.com/southshoreair](http://tinyurl.com/southshoreair) Andy plans on having emergency communications setup and is looking for help.
- John W9WY changed the password on the clubs "membership only" portion of the clubs website. Members can ask the BOD for the password

### Program:

- None

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM local.



# STUFF FOR SALE

MFJ Hamsticks. I have one for each of the following frequencies:

20 Mtr - <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/Product.php?productid=MFJ-1620T>

40 Mtr -- <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/Product.php?productid=MFJ-1640T>

15 Mtr - <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/Product.php?productid=MFJ-1615T>

List price of each is \$14.95 plus shipping. He will sell all three for \$30.00 (\$10 each and no shipping). Contact John W9WY - [w9wy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:w9wy@sbcglobal.net)

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Behringer Xenyx 1204USB - 12 input 2/2-Bus Mixer, USB cable, Rackmount, Power cable. \$100 OBO

Ranger RCI-2950 10/11 Meter, 30 watts, original microphone (Radio is not the DX version) \$100 OBO

Antron99 CB/10M antenna \$30

2 mobile fiberglass 10M antennas with dipole bracket for portable or shack use (New never used) \$30

Contact Ben KC9UNS, [KC9UNS@gmail.com](mailto:KC9UNS@gmail.com)



## 2014 Officers

President: ..... KB9HO  
Russ McComb

Vice President: ..... WD9EZB  
Bob Wiberg

Secretary: ..... KC9UNS  
Benjamin Straw

Treasurer: ..... KF9EX  
Jim Harney

Trustee: ..... WV9O  
Marv Boetcher

## Directors

Bill Young ..... N9QLS  
 Ken Brown ..... KE9TC  
 Bob Nelms ..... WD9FNY  
 Mark Skowronski ..... K9MQ  
 John Gianotti ..... W9WY  
 Carter Garcia ..... KC9YGU

## Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief ..... KC9UNS  
Benjamin Straw  
([kc9uns@gmail.com](mailto:kc9uns@gmail.com))

## Club Resources

W9LJ/R ..... 147.000 + PL 131.8  
 W9LJ/R (St. John) ..... 147.240 + PL 131.8  
 W9LJ/R ..... 442.075 + PL 131.8

## Repeater Nets

Thursday Night @ 8:00 PM:  
LCARC Weekly Information Net

## Meetings

### Second Friday of Each Month

BOARD MEETING  
 LCEMA OFFICE,  
 2900 93rd Ave  
 Crown Point (41.449555,-87.36893)  
 (Across from Gov. Ctr.)  
 6:30 PM

### Second Friday of Each Month

CLUB MEETING  
 2900 93rd Ave  
 Crown Point (41.449555,-87.36893)  
 (Across from Gov. Ctr.)  
 7:30 PM

LCARC is an IRS-certified 501(c)3 charitable organization and donations are deductible pursuant to the IRS rules. If you have working radio equipment and ancillary equipment that you can and wish to donate to the club, please contact one of the board members and we will be happy to talk to you about the process. Many companies will either grant or match employee's gifts to nonprofit organizations like LCARC. Please determine if your company is among these and contact a board member so we may help fund and grow LCARC. We cannot accept certain donations, and have to place some restrictions around them (no hazardous materials, nothing we could not sell, etc.). If you are interested, look me, or any other board member up at one of the meetings, or contact us via email (our addresses at the end of this newsletter)

# AMATEUR RADIO NEWS

## Four New ARRL Section Managers Elected

Four new ARRL Section Managers will take office on July 1. Ballots were counted May 20 for contested races in the spring SM election cycle.

In Indiana, Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ, of Fort Wayne, received 652 votes to top incumbent Section Manager Lou Everett Sr, WA5LOU, of Cumberland, who polled 482 votes. Everett has been SM for the past 2 years.

Lawrence previously served as Indiana's Section Emergency Coordinator, as Allen County ARES Emergency Coordinator, and District 3 DEC. He is currently the Allen County RACES Radio Officer and IDHS Digital Amateur Radio Advisory Council facilitator. An aerospace and physics professional, he's also taught numerous Technician license classes.

In Maine, Bill Crowley, K1NIT, received 258 votes, to defeat veteran incumbent Section Manager Bill Woodhead, N1KAT, who got 156 votes. Woodhead has served as Maine's SM since 1998.

Crowley, of Farmingdale, is currently Assistant Section Manager and Public Information Coordinator, and he was a former State Government Liaison. He's the president of the Augusta Amateur Radio Association, a past president of the Yankee Amateur Radio Club, and chair of the WinterFest and Windsor Hamfest.

In Northern Florida, Stephen Szabo, WB4OMM, polled 833 votes to 296 votes cast for Gary Alberstadt, KA3FZO, of Monticello. A retired Daytona Beach Police captain, Szabo, of Port Orange, is currently the Northern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator and District Emergency Coordinator as well as an instructor/mentor and a DXCC/WAS/VUCC card checker.

Current Northern Florida SM Paul Eakin, KJ4G, decided not to run for a new term of office after serving since 2008.

In Delaware, Bill Duvencek, KB3KYH, of Milton, received 142 votes to defeat Jerome Palmer, N3KRX, of Houston, who got 122 votes. Duvencek has been Delaware's ARRL Emergency Coordinator since 2009, and a Volunteer Examiner of the ARRL and Laurel VECs. He is a past president of the Sussex Amateur Radio Association and chaired the 2012-2013 Delmarva Hamfest. He has developed and manages SARA's weekend ham radio licensing classes.

Outgoing SM Frank Filipkowski, AD3M, of Wilmington, who has served as SM in Delaware since 2006, did not run for a new term. Because candidates in Delaware had to be resolicited for this nomination/election cycle, Duvencek's term of office will be 18 months instead of 24 months.

Five incumbent ARRL Section Managers did not face opposition and were declared elected for new 2-year terms beginning on July 1: Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN (Illinois); Everett Curry, W6ABM (Oregon); Brandon Bianchi, NI6C (Santa Clara Valley); Paul Gayet, AA1SU (Vermont), and Gary Sorensen, W9ULK (Wisconsin). (ARRL)

## Solar wind my contribute to Lighting on Earth

A new study suggests the activity of the sun may have more of an influence on lightning storms on Earth than was previously thought. This, according to researchers at the University of Reading in England who found that when an especially fast-moving solar wind may be connected to an increase in the number of lightning storms recorded here on Earth.

According to meteorologists, lightning strikes the Earth about 4 million times a day. One theory on how it forms suggests that the gas in our atmosphere is electrified by cosmic rays. When our sun is in the most active part of its 11 year cycle, in theory its magnetic field is at its strongest and should account for fewer cosmic rays from entering our atmosphere. Based on this one would expect to see fewer lightning strikes at the peak of the solar cycle than at its low point.

While previous studies have shown a negative or inverse correlation between solar activity and lightning over the long term, this latest research found just the opposite. As scientists looked at the relationship between solar activity and lightning over a much shorter period of a few weeks they noted that when the sun was most active they did see a drop in cosmic rays. The big surprise was that they also noted a definite increase in amount of lightning.

As part of the study, the scientists looked at the speed of the solar wind coming off the sun, which varies depending on which part of the sun is facing the Earth. When a fast solar wind swept over our home planet, the researchers found that the number of recorded lightning strikes actually went up.

The exact cause of this phenomenon has yet to be determined, but one possibility is that charged particles from the sun are riding on extremely fast solar winds. While they don't move quite as quickly as the cosmic rays, they may move fast enough to serve the same function with the aid of a swift movement from the solar wind. If the theory eventually proves to be true, it could help weather forecasters to predict the likelihood of lightning storms in the future.

This in turn could be a safety net to let hams and other two-way radio users know when they should lower their towers, make sure to disconnect all gear from both their antenna lead in cables and ground all connectors. Also that its time to disconnect their gear from the AC power lines coming into their homes.

The study describing the findings was recently published in the journal Environmental Research Letters. (iopletters.org, other published news reports) (AR Newline)

## Radio and Birds

This in a study reported in the journal Nature says that AM radio signals can send out interference that can disrupt the internal magnetic compasses of migratory birds.

Biologists at Germany's University of Oldenburg studied migratory robins and found that the birds could not orient themselves when on the schools city campus but could while they were kept in the countryside. Further experimentation showed that when the huts in which the birds were housed were screened with grounded aluminum reducing electromagnetic interference, the birds could easily orient themselves. When the grounding was disconnected, the birds again lost their sense of direction.

According to the report, the frequency range that was found to disorient the birds is from about 50 kHz to about 5 MHz. This implies that it is not mobile phones nor power lines that are disrupting the birds ability to fly in the proper direction but rather radio waves in that spectrum.

The team did seven years' worth of double-blind tests. The conclusion is that Migratory birds can sense the Earth's magnetic field and use it as an in-built compass to help them fly in the right direction. (Telegraph, The Register, All Access News, AR Newline)

## Alpha Amplifiers and Ten-Tec Merge under RF Concepts banner

The May 9th announcement that RF Concepts, LLC the maker of Alpha Amplifiers and Sevierville, Tennessee-based TEN-TEC Inc. were merging literally caught the worlds ham radio community by surprise. The merger creates a multi-million-dollar company with products that span from QRP transceivers to full-legal-limit amplifiers. It also establishes an organization with the size and scale to continue to innovate into the next decade and beyond.

The new company will retain the RF Concepts name but operations will now be shared between its Longmont Colorado and its Sevierville Tennessee facilities. The company is currently seeking a new operations location in the Sevierville area to more efficiently house factory operations, part of the engineering resources, as well as technical and customer support services. The Colorado facility will house engineering resources, technical and customer support services, and much of the front-office operations.

Both Jim Wharton, N04A, who in January of this year took the reins of TEN-TEC after the retirement of founder Jack Burchfield, K4JU and Ken Long, N0QO, who has been overseeing the operations at Alpha Amplifiers will be presidents of their respective group. (RF Concepts, AR Newslines)

## Florida resident issues proposed \$48000 fine for operating cellphone jamming device

A Florida resident that the FCC says was the source of cellular telephone jamming for upward of two years has been handed a \$48,000 Notice of Liability to Monetary Forfeiture. The FCC says that Jason R. Humphreys of Seffner, Florida, was caught with a jamming device in his car as he rode along Interstate 4 disrupting not only cell phones, but allegedly police and other emergency communications as well.

For the FCC it all began back on April 29, 2013. That's when its Enforcement Bureau received a complaint from Metro P-C-S that its cellular telephone service had been experiencing interference during the morning and evening commutes in the Tampa, Florida, area. Based on the location of the towers and the times that the alleged interference occurred, the Bureau determined that the likely source of the interference was mobile along Interstate 4 between downtown Tampa and Seffner, Florida.

On May 7th, agents from the Bureau's Tampa Office began monitoring the suspected route. On May 7th, 8th, and 9th the agents determined that strong wideband emissions within the cellular and P-C-S bands were coming from a blue Toyota Highlander with a Florida license plate. On May 9th, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, working with the FCC agents stopped the suspect vehicle. At that time the Sheriff's Deputies reported that communications with police dispatch over their 800 MHz two-way portable radios were interrupted as they approached the SUV.

The agents from the FCC Tampa Office and the Hillsborough Sheriff's Deputies interviewed the driver, who identified himself as Jason R. Humphreys. At that time Humphreys admitted that he owned and had operated a cell phone jammer from his car and had done so for the

past 16 to 24 months. An inspection of the vehicle revealed the jammer behind the seat cover of the passenger seat. Humphreys stated that he had been operating the jammer to keep people from talking on their cell phones while driving.

At the conclusion of the interview, the Hillsborough Sheriff Deputies seized Humphreys' cell phone jammer pursuant to Florida state law. On May 10th, Metro PCS confirmed that the interference to its cell towers had ceased.

Now, after looking at all of the evidence in the case the FCC has issued the proposed 48,000 fine. In doing so it said that Jason Humphreys apparently willfully and repeatedly violated Sections of the Communications Act, and several sections of the agency's rules by operating the cell phone jammer. Also that operation of the device could and may have had disastrous consequences by precluding the use of cell phones to reach life-saving 911 services provided by police, ambulance, and fire departments. It also could have disrupted critical communications of first responders driving on the highway near Humphreys' vehicle.

The Notice of Proposed Liability or NAL to Jason R. Humphreys was approved on April 24th and made public on April 29th. At that time he was given the customary 30 days to pay the fine in full or to file an appeal. (FCC, AR Newslines)

## ARRL Vice Director Agrees to Conditions to Resolve Conflict-of-Interest Situation

ARRL Rocky Mountain Vice Director Dwayne Allen, WY7FD, has agreed to stipulations spelled out by the ARRL Board of Directors to address a conflict-of-interest situation arising from the employment of his wife, Katie Allen, WY7KRA, by CQ Communications Inc. Emphasizing that there had been no allegations of impropriety on the part of either Dwayne or Katie Allen, the ARRL Ethics & Elections Committee determined on April 24 that Katie Allen's March 28 appointment as Sales and Marketing Manager for CQ Communications Inc created a conflict of interest for her husband that would disqualify him from continuing to serve as a Vice Director. Katie Allen is the former ARRL Membership Manager and a present volunteer member of the ARRL Public Relations Committee.

On April 25, written requests were made by more than five directors to have the board review the Ethics & Elections Committee's decision. Informal discussion among directors and volunteer officers culminated in a May 22 meeting by teleconference of the full ARRL Board. A majority of board members concurred that a "potential conflict of interest exists under current ARRL By-Laws resulting from the familial relationship" between Dwayne and Katie Allen. With some dissent, the board approved the motion of ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, to manage the potential conflict of interest by calling upon Dwayne Allen to agree to certain stipulations. The agreement allows him to remain in office while isolating him from any ARRL matters that would conflict with his wife's professional activities.

Under the agreement, to which Dwayne Allen must adhere as long as his wife is employed by

CQ Communications, Allen "will diligently recuse himself" from portions of any Board, Committee, or other ARRL meeting — including any discussion or votes — that pertain to ARRL advertising and marketing matters as well as to the ARRL Financial Plan as it relates to advertising and marketing matters. Allen also must recuse himself from "any other discussion or vote where a conflict of interest might arise" and abide by ARRL non-disclosure requirements.

According to the resolution, the board "may revisit the issue of a conflict of interest" involving Dwayne Allen, if the Ethics & Elections Committee feels he has failed to comply with the terms of board resolution.

The Ethics & Elections Committee's April 24 action marked the first application of a conflict of interest policy, adopted by the Board in July 2006 and contained in Bylaw 45, to a situation involving an elected ARRL official already in office. (ARRL)

## Cuba Now Issuing Licenses for Limited, Domestic 60 Meter Operation

Cuba's Ministry of Communications has begun issuing license endorsements for experimental operation on 60 meters, but US stations that stick to the five allocated channels won't hear them. Pavel Milanés Costa, CO7WT, in Camagüey, reported earlier this year that the Ministry was authorizing use of the band on a secondary basis, but its principal use will be during emergencies.

Cuban hams who are granted an endorsement will be allowed to transmit between 5418 and 5430 kHz, on CW, SSB, and PSK-31, and they may only contact other Cuban stations; no international contacts are allowed. Since the 12 kHz Cuban allocation does not coincide with the five channels that US hams are permitted to use, no inadvertent encounters between US and Cuban hams should occur. Maximum allowed power output is 50 W (or 10 W for Novice operators), and up to 100 W may be authorized in emergencies. Milanés Costa said that Cuban hams would appreciate listener reports.

"I had my license update on May 21, and I'm testing on the band, mainly around 0000 UTC on 5422.0 kHz LSB and encouraging other Cuban hams to get their license upgrades for this band," he said.

At World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) 2007 it was Cuba that suggested establishing an allocation to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis within the band 5250 to 5450 kHz. The item failed at WRC-2012 but will be on the agenda of WRC-2015 as Agenda Item 1.4.

The band 5250 to 5450 kHz is allocated to the fixed and mobile services, except aeronautical mobile, on a primary basis. The FCC authorized five channels for US radio amateurs after consulting with the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA) regarding ongoing government use of that region of the spectrum. The US channels were specifically chosen to avoid Amateur Radio interference to government operations. (Southgate, ARRL)

## D-Day Special Event Stations to be Active

Several special event stations will be on the air to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day — the Allied invasion of the Normandy Coast of France in World War II.

In France, TM70JUN will be on the air from June 6 — the actual anniversary date — until June 20. Modes will be SSB, CW, PSK, RTTY, and JT65 on HF and 6 meters. Special event station TM70BMC will operate from Mont Canisy June 5-8.

W9D will be active on SSB, CW, and AM on HF through 6 meters June 6-8 from the First Division War Museum in Winfield, Illinois.

VC3JUNO from Canada will be on the air from June 6 until July 31 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day; "Juno" was the code name for the beach where Canadian forces landed.

The Riverway Amateur Radio Society will sponsor special event station GB70DDL from June 1 until June 28 from the Sea Cadet headquarters in Stafford, England.

On June 6, 1944, 160,000 Allied troops landed along a 50-mile stretch of heavily-fortified French coastline to fight Nazi Germany on the Normandy beaches. The attack was a major turning point in the war. More than 5000 ships and 13,000 aircraft supported the invasion, in which more than 9000 Allied soldiers were killed or wounded.  
(ARRL)

## WNPR Highlights the History of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

On a May 23 broadcast, Connecticut Public Radio station WNPR featured Amateur Radio and the ARRL as part of its "Where We Live" program, hosted by John Dankosky. During the segment, Dankosky and reporter Patrick Skahill, who also authors a science blog known as The Beaker, discussed the ARRL centennial and the rich history of Amateur Radio.

You can listen to the 12-minute segment at <http://wnpr.org/post/history-ham-radio>. (Click the orange PLAY button on the WNPR page.) The segment includes interviews with ARRL Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, and ARRL Laboratory Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM.  
(ARRL, WNPR)

## Hamvention Makes New Scooter-Only Policy

The y s to discuss what worked and what didn't in the "Hamvention Correction of Errors" meeting. This year's Hamvention was largely considered a great success with a record-breaking turnout and enthusiastic vendor and forum involvement.

One concern from this year's event was the volume of electric scooters, or electric mobility devices. While scooters have been a staple of Hamvention for years, attendees noted that the number of scooters has continued to grow and has caused some logistical concerns for the world's largest hamfest.

In one noted event, Hamvention attendee Robert Milman had a four inch chunk of flesh on his leg ripped off when an errant scooter ran him over. Milman said that after the "last call" was

given at the cheesecake-on-a-stick stand in the concessions area, scooter user Keyton Marbalm threw the scooter blindly into reverse at full throttle and ran straight up Milman's leg. Milman said that the wound is "healing up nicely" and that the cheesecake-on-a-stick treat is simply "can't miss."

DAARC Hamvention Correction of Errors Deputy Officer Wayne "Piggy" Marx said that in response to this and other incidents that the Hamvention will move to a "Scooter Only Policy" starting next year. Marx started that they had discussed banning the electric scooters but agreed that, "scooters are an important part of the Hamvention experience and are important asset for those hams that can't move as easily as they once could. We'd have to exclude them and felt we couldn't ban the scooters, so we decided to go a different way."

Marx noted that the "Scooter Only Policy" will require that all Hamvention attendees rent and use a scooter at all times on the Hara convention premises and flea market grounds.

"We felt that the only way to allow scooters and also ensure safety was to level the playing field. All Hamvention tickets next year will include scooter rental, and walking around without one will be strictly prohibited."  
(K5PO, HamHijinks.com)

## Connecticut ham uses radio to save girl's life

On May 5th, Keith Mutch KB1RBI of Torrington, CT was on Ocean Beach looking out over New London harbor when he spotted an unidentified 12 year old girl and her dog, in distress as she attempted to paddle her canoe in the rough waters and increased winds on Long Island Sound.

Mutch quickly attempted to contact the U.S. Coast Guard with his cell phone, only to find that device did not have reception. Of course, When All Else Fails.....Mutch turned to his hand held amateur radio.

Mutch, a Technician Class licensee, was able to communicate with the Coast Guard who alerted the nearby cross sound passenger ferry "John H" to be on the look out for the girl. Meanwhile the canoe in which the girl and dog were paddling had capsized.

The ferry located the girl and the crew began "Man Overboard" procedures, tossing her a life ring, which she clung to until a boat crew from Coast Guard Station New London arrived to complete her rescue.

The dog swam 3/4 of a mile back to land, where ironically, Keith Mutch spotted him. Mutch says that he chased the German Shepherd up and down the beach for more than a half hour before being able to grab the leash and calm the animal. Mutch contacted the Coast Guard and he was able to reunite the dog with the girl's family.

A ceremony at New London City Hall honored those involved in the rescue. The boat crews from the ferry and the Coast Guard received commendations  
(QRZ, Southgate)

## ARRL Announces Free Exam Review Website

The ARRL has launched a new online resource that allows users to take randomly generated

practice exams using questions from the actual examination question pool. ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio™ is free, and users do not need to be ARRL members. The only requirement is that users must first set up a site login (this is a different and separate login from your ARRL website user registration).

"The ARRL's online Exam Review is designed to help license examination candidates review their progress as they study," said ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "As you complete a chapter or section of a license manual, you can turn to the online program to review all of the related questions taken directly from the examination question pool. After answering each question — right or wrong — the correct answer is shown, and a page reference to the license manual is displayed for further review."

Inderbitzen said that when you're close to completing your study, you can take as many practice exams as you like. "The practice exams can be taken on-screen or printed. You won't have any surprises on exam day!" he added.

Inderbitzen said users are encouraged to share feedback and suggestions for improvement with the development team, using the online feedback form linked from the Exam Review site. ARRL Exam Review was designed for ARRL by DHF Systems, the creator of ARRL's TravelPlus for Repeaters™ software.

Education Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, pointed out some of ARRL Exam Review features that are intended to help Amateur Radio instructors and schoolteachers. "Instructors have a new online resource at their fingertips," she said. "They can print practice exams anytime and encourage students to review between classes. The site is also mobile-browser friendly, so it can be used on a laptop, tablet, or smartphone, at home or in the classroom."

While ARRL Exam Review is being introduced with the new, third edition of the popular Technician study guide, The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, the site also supports practice examinations for General and Amateur Extra. An updated Technician class examination question pool becomes effective July 1, and Exam Review will automatically transition to the new question pool on that date.  
(ARRL)

## New pirate stations in Ukraine conflict

Two CW stations have appeared on the higher HF bands, claiming to operate from Donetsk, as promoting a separatist 'Peoples' Republic of Donetsk', or 'NovoRossiya New Russia'.

The callsigns, D0A and 1C4M are believed to be two operators on the same transmitter. The callsigns are invalid and do not count for anything in ham radio terms.

While a QSL manager may be appointed shortly in Donetsk, communications are poor, and direct QSL is unlikely to succeed.

There is some doubt that the stations are really in Donetsk. There is evidence that they may be operating from Kazakhstan.  
(Southgate)

## Man Found In Hara Arena, Days After Hamvention Ends

A Vermont amateur radio operator was found today in a remote hallway within the Hara Arena complex, three days after the end of Hamvention. Officials at a news conference identified the man as Gerry Mapleshire and described him as being found "disoriented, hungry, and with three days of beard growth."

After medical technicians on the scene revived his blood sugar by providing him a leftover \$6 Hamvention Hotdog, Mapleshire recalled what happened.

"It was shoulder-to-shoulder on the arena floor. I remember a nice-looking lady handing me a free Kenwood cloth bag full of brochures and a lapel pin, then the crowd shifted and I was pushed into the MFJ booth," said Mapleshire.

He says that's when his "survival instincts" kicked in.

"I got on my hands and knees and crawled out of the MFJ booth. I got to the arena floor ramp but the crowd was so thick. I somehow ended up in a hall by the loading docks, without my Kenwood bag," he said.

He wandered through dark hallways trying to find his way out of the vast complex for three days before a maintenance worker found him. "I called for help on 146.520 but no one answered," said Mapleshire.

Hamvention information deputy Ned Doubtman investigated why his radio call went unanswered. "Turns out he was transmitting WITHOUT a PL tone. Everyone here blocks out QRM by using a PL tone on transmit and receive. It's no wonder he wasn't heard," said Doubtman.

Mapleshire says he's still recovering from the traumatic experience, but would like to get in touch with someone from Kenwood so he can get his lapel pin.  
(K5KVN, HamHijinks.com)

## Petition to Expand RFID Use on 70 Centimeters Withdrawn

The FCC has dismissed without prejudice a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11651) by Lockheed Martin that would have amended the Commission's Part 15 rules to expand deployment of the company's radio frequency identification (RFID) system in the 433 MHz band (433.5-434.5 MHz). Lockheed Martin sold its RFID business 2 years ago, but the company only this month requested that the Petition be withdrawn and the proceeding terminated.

The ARRL had staunchly opposed the Lockheed Martin petition, which the firm filed on behalf of its subsidiary at that time, Savi. The

League locked horns with Savi years ago, when the company successfully petitioned the FCC to amend its Part 15 rules governing periodic radiators to permit high-power, near-continuous duty RFID tags in the 433 MHz band. As a concession to opponents, the FCC limited deployment of the devices to "commercial and industrial areas" and allowed their use only for tracking "commercial shipping containers." Lockheed Martin acquired Savi in 2006, but no longer owns the company.

The now-dismissed petition would have expanded the frequency range of the RFID tags to 433.05-434.79 MHz, required listen-before-transmit protocols to avoid interference to Amateur Radio, eliminated a manufacturer registration requirement, and dropped rules that prohibited deploying the devices outside "commercial or industrial areas" and limited their application to "commercial shipping containers."

The ARRL filed vigorous opposition to the Lockheed Martin Petition in January 2012, saying that Lockheed's petition "seeks to undo virtually all of the few interference protections" the FCC had adopted in 2004, "solely on the basis of vaguely stated advances in RFID technology." Other Part 15 device manufacturers also opposed any expansion of the high-power application.

A May 14 Commission letter from FCC Office of Engineering and Technology Chief Julius P. Knapp said that on the basis of Lockheed Martin's Petition and the comments filed on it, "we do not find sufficient basis to propose rules," and determined that the original petition "does not warrant" FCC consideration. Knapp added, however, "Any party interested in pursuing changes to the rules for RFID operations in the 433 MHz band may file a new petition." (ARRL)

## Ohio Antenna Law Challenge May Be Over

In a surprise move, the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals has dismissed an appeal from the Village of Swanton, Ohio, in an Amateur Radio antenna zoning case. The ARRL had announced plans to file a "friend of the court" or amicus curiae brief on behalf of ARRL Life Member Gary Wodtke, WW8N, who has been trying since 2009 to erect a 60 foot antenna support structure on his 0.2 acre residential lot. It now appears that he will be able to do so. The Village of Swanton, Ohio, has established a fixed antenna height of 20 feet above the residential roofline, and it turned down Wodtke's antenna variance application for the taller structure. On appeal, Wodtke in January won a final judgment in his favor in the Fulton County Common Pleas Court. The court ruled that federal and state law preempted Swanton's antenna ordinance.

The Appeals Court ruling on April 3 was based on the fact that the trial court decision the Village could have appealed was issued on August 20, 2013, while the judgment that the Village attempted to appeal was issued on January 21, 2014. Since the August 20 trial court decision was a final order, the Village was required to file its appeal within 30 days, and it never did so, thus losing its right to appeal. The ruling means that the August 20 trial court decision stands, and Wodtke wins the right to erect the tower for which he applied.

The award of attorney fees appears to be at the center of confusion on both sides of the case. The trial court's decision last August 20 decision awarded attorney fees to Wodtke. Because attorney fees had not yet been determined, both sides considered the decision as not yet final. But, while Wodtke's attorney had sought attorney fees in his original complaint, the amended complaint that the trial court ruled upon last summer included no such request.

The Court of Appeals said that, ordinarily, when attorney fees are requested in a complaint but not yet ruled upon, the order disposing of the rest of the case is not final and appealable, but the court pointed out that a claim for attorney fees was not pending once court entered its August 20 judgment. "Therefore, the order was final and appealable on August 20, 2013," the court said.

The Court of Appeals also noted that, although both sides had filed for reconsideration of the August 20 decision, neither of those motions nor the trial court's January 21 decision had the effect of extending the appeal deadline. In the words of the Court of Appeals, "It is well settled that a motion to reconsider does not stay the time to file a notice of appeal."

The Court of Appeals' April 3 decision could yet be reviewed by the Ohio Supreme Court, but only if the Village had filed a timely Memorandum in Support of Jurisdiction to convince the high court to hear the appeal.

Ohio Section State Government Liaison Nick Pittner, K8NAP, believes the Appeals Court decision in Wodtke v Village of Swanton could set legal precedent for similar antenna-related cases down the road. An attorney, Pittner was instrumental in getting Ohio's PRB-1 law enacted. "The Ohio Municipal League seems intent on challenging [the PRB-1 law] in court, and will likely try to do so in some other case if the challenge is not available in this one," Pittner said. "We're keeping the research files open." (Delara News, DARA, ARRL)



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## QRZ.com Now Supports “Secondary” Call Signs and LoTW

ARRL

The popular QRZ.com website has announced some new features. The site's call sign database now fully supports “secondary” call signs. “A secondary call sign is one which includes a slash plus a modifier as either a prefix or a suffix to the primary call sign,” QRZ.com Publisher Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, explained. In other words, users can create separate pages for their DXpedition, QRP, or mobile operations, for example, or for a repeater, by editing their account options from the main QRZ menu, located below their call sign at the top right of the page. Any combination will work, Lloyd said, and the server can find an appended call sign, whether users apply a prefix or a suffix to their primary call signs.

These call sign options are grafted onto your primary call sign, so that your subscriber status follows. The Detail tab of each page will include a “See Also” listing that displays other call signs related to the primary call sign. Secondary call signs may be deleted at any time, and it's possible to provide a direct link to the secondary page.

In addition, QRZ.com now offers Logbook of The World (LoTW) integration for its logbook subscribers(<https://ssl.qrz.com/products/index.html>). “Many, many folks have asked us for LoTW integration,” Lloyd said. This means that LoTW users can upload QRZ logs directly to LoTW “with just a couple of clicks of the mouse,” he added. “The logbook offers options to send individual QSOs, lists of QSOs, or even your entire logbook directly to LoTW.” It's long been possible to download an ADIF from the QRZ logbook, but the latest wrinkle largely automates the process.

A configuration page lets users import their LoTW certificates into QRZ, “so that we can sign and send the logs on your behalf.” Uploaded contacts in users' QRZ logbooks will be shaded in green to indicate that they have been sent. QRZ.com has prepared a Quick Start Guide([http://files.qrz.com/static/qrz/lotw\\_cert\\_guide.pdf](http://files.qrz.com/static/qrz/lotw_cert_guide.pdf)) for QRZ LoTW operations.

## What can you do with an old vintage mechanical 60 WPM teletype machine?

By Thomas NE7X

RTTY (Radio Teletype) is still a very active mode on all the HF amateur bands. You can find RTTY software programs like mmtty to install on your computer and decode 60 WPM teletype on your computer which is interfaced to your HF transceiver. There are also many RTTY contests you can participate in. However trying to operate HF RTTY using a mechanical teletype printer can be very challenging to say the least. So what can you do with an old vintage mechanical RTTY teletype printer?

Like everything today, “Look to the Internet!” Yes the internet... George W7TTY host the ITTY (Internet Teletype) web site <http://rtty.com> where he streams two 60 WPM BAUDOT 2125 MARK /2295 SPACE audio channels for USA formatted teletype printers and one 1275 MARK / 1445 SPACE audio channel for European formatted teletype printers. All three of these audio channels can be found on <http://shoutcase.com> or from the <http://rtty.com> website

ITTY NEWS:

<http://itty.rtty.com:8000/listen.pls>

Greenwich

<http://national.rtty.com:8040/listen.pls>

AutoStart:

<http://autostart.rtty.com:8030/listen.pls>

The ITTY NEWS and Greenwich channels are 24x7x365 streaming news from around the world. The AutoStart channel is my favorite. There is a group of about 10 so far who have their vintage radio teletype printers on 24 hours a day in AutoStart mode. Via the <http://rtty.com> website, you can post messages to everyone who is monitoring this channel, to “wake up” their teletype printer with a message, comment or even a teletype picture.

I have an old model 19 teletype printer which I obtained at a local hamfest. Basically the guy gave it to me because he felt it was a useless piece of junk. I have it connected to a HAL ST-6 demodulator which supports autostart. For my receiver I use a Grace model GDHRDT200 internet receiver. However you can use any sound card in a Windows or Linux PC / laptop with your favorite audio streaming software, the same software you use to listen to music off the internet. I went with the Grace internet receiver so I didn't need to keep my ham shack PC powered on 24 hours a day. If you go out to ebay or the internet and Google search for internet radios, you will find many different brands and types.

So if you have an old vintage teletype printer in your garage or basement, or you see one at a local hamfest, pick it up, dust it off, give it a squirt of oil, and join us on the ITTY Internet teletype autostart channel.

Thomas NE7X...

Phoenix Arizona USA

<http://ne7x.com>



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## Lake County Amateur Radio Club Membership Application

Please complete this form and return mail (address below) with your dues. Make all checks payable to the *Lake County Amateur Radio Club*. You may also return this application at one of our club meetings, held the 2nd Friday of each month at the Lake County Department of Homeland Security Office, 2900 W 93rd Ave, Crown Point, Indiana

If you want a receipt and ID card mailed to you, send a SASE. You may also pickup your card at a regular club meeting.

Lake County Amateur Radio Club — PO BOX 90 — Crown Point, IN 46308-0090

Name	Call	License Class	Birth Month

City	State	Zip	Phone

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

DUES ENCLOSED (please check one — also indicate if you are an ARRL Member)     ARRL Member

Full (\$25)     Family (\$30)     Associate—Non Ham(\$10)     I wish to make an **ADDITIONAL** donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Call	License Class	E Mail	Birth Month

First time members AFTER June 30, membership fees for the remainder of the year are 1/2 the fees listed above.