

SQUAKBOX

Issaquah Amateur Radio Club

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Issaquah, Washington

December 2007

WRC-07 Wraps Up In Geneva; Will Likely Meet Again In 2011

The final working session of the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) in Geneva drew to a close Thursday afternoon, November 15. The signing ceremony for the Final Acts will take place Friday. According to International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, the principal achievements and disappointments, as they relate to the Amateur Services, of the conference are:
Achievements

* Maintenance all existing amateur allocations, including the

7.200-7.300 MHz allocation in ITU Region 2 (the Americas) that had been somewhat at risk in connection with consideration of additional allocations for HF broadcasting (see below).

* A new worldwide secondary allocation at 135.7-137.8 kHz with a maximum radiated power limit of 1 W e.i.r.p. (given the low efficiency of practical anten-

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The Nature Of Disasters And Implications For Amateur Radio

Part 6 of 6, from a lecture presented at the Communications Academy, 2006

Structuring Your Response

Use a formal and complete Incident Command response including organization, objectives, terminology and operational periods. [Use it to manage the Amateur Radio response outside of the incident area. Within the incident area, you fall under the existing Incident Command.]

Have a set of SOPS to help each person [in the ICS structure] to do their job.

Send regular situation reports over the air and post them on the internet as well. Assign one person to ensure the nets get the latest and read the latest situation reports on the air - a minimum once an hour on operations frequencies and once every 15 minutes on check-in frequencies.

On an individual basis, make a cup of coffee. [This gives you time to mentally get prepared to

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December Program

Holiday Ice Cream Party

Monita KA7ZPM is arranging our annual Holiday Ice Cream Party with all the fixings. Bring the family and fix yourselves a treat.

Future programs are as follows:
Jan - Batteries
Feb - Open

There are openings for future programs. Contact John, KA7TTY, 392-7623 to volunteer.

Also . . .

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At the last meeting . . .

November 7, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by President Del Marker, AC7QS.. Seventeen members and guest Sandra Howard WE7LXP were present. A motion was passed to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Del reported that our bank balance is \$1408.34 and we have \$89.14 in petty cash.

Doug Phillips and Bruce Helbert KG7OI discussed our field day efforts and said that our score of over 2200 was much higher than the scores of neighboring clubs. They expect to include a CW station next year which could raise our score considerably.

Rod Johnson WE7X told of his participation in a recent VHF contest.

Flash Parlino N7TCW discussed the following events in which the HRSG has or will participate. Oct 20 - Emergency Preparedness fair/expo at the Highlands (sponsored by civic assoc) - Bruce, Kermit, Ivy and Flash ran a table. Nov 10 AM - Preparedness Training at Tibbets (sponsored by the city) - Flash is teaching a class. Nov 10 PM - CERT mock disaster drill, HRSG is welcome to support communications. Nov 14 - Emergency Preparedness fair/expo at City Hall (sponsored by the city for its employees) - we will have a table. Nov 26 - regular meeting, last meeting of the year.

Kelly Kussman KD7SAN stated that the Carnation-Duvall repeater will have new radios.

Bruce said the Sammamish city council officials were concerned about the appearance of ham radio antennas.

Del asked for nominations for officers to be elected at the December meeting. Rod said he would accept an office. Others declined for vari-

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E-Mail Elmer

Got a HAM radio question and can't find an Elmer to talk to? Just send your question by E-Mail to our E-Mail Elmer at: IARCElmer@dhuibh.net

2007 IARC Officers

President

Del Marker (AC7QS) - (425) 392-1857 (Issaquah)

Vice President

John MacDuff (KA7TTY) - (425) 392-7623 (Issaquah)

Secretary-Treasurer

Peter Rosenberg (AC7SB) - (425) 222-9255 (Fall City)

W7BI Trustee

Rod Johnson (WE7X) - (425) 392-8497 (Issaquah)

Disasters Cont.

go.]

Grab & Go bags should be one bag for personal gear (waterproof) and one for a single station set-up. If one person can't carry it, it is too much

Use spares. It is a requirement of Incident Command and gives huge operational flexibility to your group. Spares give you flexibility. Who takes over if you cannot?

Station spares at the hospitals first. If the hospitals can be ruled out because this is not a mass-casualty incident, then look for unusual locations. [The peak of hospital use is post-disaster.]

Reception centers may not be used or may have enough phones depending on the nature of the emergency. Don't tie yourself up there if you aren't needed.

Inform surrounding clubs. Don't be an example of why Amateur Radio operators are often the worst communicators. [Notify them early in your response.]

Omit things from your Incident Command System and Standard Operating Procedures by conscious and methodical intent rather than simply forgetting to do it. If you don't need a safety officer, don't assign one, but don't forget it!

Use non-hams to assist. They can do member callout, logging of net traffic, writing situation reports, updating other clubs, covering for bathroom breaks, providing logistics support, timing situation reports, taking pic-

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Minutes Cont.

ous reasons. John MacDuff KA7TTY said he would continue as vice president but wants someone else to be newsletter editor, a job he has held for many years.

Del said the December meeting would be followed by the ice cream social. Jim Horn KA7GKP said that Monita Horn KA7ZPM had volunteered to oversee the event again.

John asked for program suggestions for next years meetings. Bruce suggested Empire Of The Air, a video about radio history, and also a presentation on rechargeable batteries.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM for refreshments and the auction. Bruce ably served as auctioneer. Sales totaled \$156.50 and cash donations added \$21.50 for a total income of \$178.00.

73 de Pete – WY7Z – S

FCC Enforcement Bureau Actions

Late last month, Special Counsel in the FCC's Enforcement Bureau Riley Hollingsworth sent notification to Brandon M. Duke, KD0BSH (ex KC0UWS), notifying Duke that he has "submitted [his] license to the Commission to be held for one year, retroactive to July 1, 2007, during which time [Duke] will have no authority to operate radio transmitting equip-

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WRC-07 Cont.

nas for this frequency range, this limit is not as severe as it may sound).

* Inclusion of an item, "to consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services" on the provisional agenda for WRC-11 (set for 2011).

* Avoidance of future agenda items that pose serious threats to key amateur allocations.

* Some improvement in the so-called "country footnotes" that provide for different allocations by country in all or part of the 1.8, 3.5, 50 and 430 MHz amateur bands.

Disappointments

* No new allocation for the Amateur Service in the vicinity of 5 MHz, and no agenda item to consider such an allocation at a future conference.

* No future agenda item to consider an amateur allocation at 50 MHz in ITU Region 1 (Europe, the former Soviet Union, Mongolia, Africa and parts of the Middle East).

The amateur issues were of course a minor part of the WRC-07 agenda, but the Amateur Service was involved in one of the most contentious agenda items dealing with allocations between 4 and 10 MHz. A series of European Common Proposals had proposed changes to allow for an increase of 350 kHz in HF broadcasting allocations, with a footnote for ad-

ministrations to allow the Amateur Service to use 5.260-5.410 MHz on a secondary basis and with a radiated power limit of 250 W; however, HF broadcasting had no support from the other regional organizations and no compromise acceptable to all parties could be found. Ultimately the European administrations had to accept "no change" for broadcasting, effectively scuttling our chances for a 5 MHz allocation.

The IARU had hoped that if an allocation could not be achieved at WRC-07, an appropriate agenda item could be included for WRC-11. The 2007 conference, however, had little interest in taking up HF issues at the next conference, tentatively set for 2011, having little to show for a great deal of effort expended on HF in preparing for WRC-07. The only HF issues on the provisional WRC-11 agenda have to do with oceanographic radar applications and the implementation of new digital technologies for the maritime mobile service.

The International Telecommunication Union's planning for the next World Radiocommunication Conference begins on Monday in Geneva, with the convening of a two-day Conference Preparatory Meeting for WRC-11. Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, will attend on behalf of the IARU. - The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 46, November 16, 2007 - S

Disasters Cont.

tures.

Take pictures. It makes your "Lessons Learned" much more interesting even if nobody learns your lessons.

Be flexible! Disasters are never what you thought they were going to be.

Other General Comments About Disasters - For The Fun Of It

Things happen faster than you can react or think about.

Things don't work and things go wrong.

There are no right answers, especially when information is unavailable or incorrect.

Any decision you make will be determined by others, who were not there, to be the wrong decision.

Evacuating a city is like moving it over 10 miles and then having everyone say, "Okay, we moved. Now you must supply everything to us and take care of every single problem we have."

Lessons learned are "lessons listed" rather than anything people learn.

Donations are a nightmare and are often called "the second disaster". Amateur Radio can be a big help at donation warehouses.

Backup generators fail. Over half of them fail in the first 24-48 hours.

Some problems are not solvable.

Rumors start in the absence of reliable official information.

It takes a while to get organized.

Key people will be missing - out of touch, out of region, or dead.

If you don't know the key peo-

ple, you won't be allowed in to the emergency response. If they know you, they will let you in.

Most people don't learn from disasters. People in tornado alley don't all have tornado cellars and people rebuild in floodplains.

People don't have 72-hours of supplies and expect the government to provide everything in that period that might be required.

People are unrealistic in what they expect the responders to do.

Reception centers or evacuation centers are the last place people want to stay and will be completely empty unless it is the only available place to stay (at which point it becomes full to overflowing).

No matter how many frequencies you have, you can only listen to one or two at the most. Emergency organizations wanting more frequencies will still experience communications failures.

No matter how much interoperability you have, you can only listen to one frequency and one person at a time. Adding more people onto a single frequency only clogs the frequency to a greater degree.

The media may be the only source of reliable information because the municipal information representatives are spending too much time massaging and spinning the limited information they have.

Nobody has the total picture or will ever know exactly what happened. All decisions made in this situation risk being the wrong decisions.

If you wait to be called, you will

Enforcement Cont.

ment."

In January 2007, the FCC told Duke that they had information showing he had been operating on frequencies not allowed by his Technician class license; Duke admitted this was true. The FCC reminded him "that such operation is a violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 United States Code Section 301, and would subject you to fine and imprisonment. Additionally, we noted that you have ignored requests to cease operation on repeaters in your area. You were advised of the requirement to heed those requests in a Commission letter dated January 9, 2006."

Duke, in order to resolve the FCC's case against him, agreed to turn in his license, retroactive to July 1, 2007. Hollingsworth warned Duke that "operation of Amateur Radio transmitting equipment during this period (until June 30, 2008) would result in enforcement action against your license, which may include revocation and monetary forfeiture (fine). Fines normally range from \$7500 to \$10,000." - The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 46, November 16, 2007- S

likely never be called because they have too many other issues or can't find your number when they finally do want to call you. - *Tom Cox VE6TOX - Communications Academy, April 1, 2006, Burien WA - S*

The ARRL Is Looking For A Few Good Instructors

Teachers who have participated in ARRL's popular summer professional development workshops, the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/tbp/ti.html>>, continue to spread the word about this exceptional experience and the unique value that Amateur Radio and the wireless technology curricula bring to their classrooms. The Teachers Institute is one outreach component of ARRL's Education & Technology Program, which has received strong donor support to bring Amateur Radio and the exploration of radio science to schools and classrooms. Building on our success, the League is making plans to expand the Teachers Institute next year, and needs instructors to lead the Institute sessions.

Contingent on funding, the ARRL plans to offer six four-day sessions in 2008 to provide opportunities for 72 teachers, and is looking for additional qualified instructors to support this expansion of the program. The Teachers Institute Instructor position is a part-time contract position that will require lead instruction at a Teachers Institute workshop during the Spring/Summer of 2008 as a paid associate instructor, under the direction of the Teachers Institute Program Manager. Successful performance may lead to a follow-

RYRYRYRY...



DE KA7TTY

My my. It is December again already. I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. We had 19 people including my nephew and his wife and their 2 year old twins. With all that energy I don't think I would have had to plug in my HF rig to put it on the air. I managed to sneak off and run my 5:30 Traffic Net while dinner settled. And I don't think I was even missed!

I hope you all have your antennas all set for winter and a few projects set aside for the "long winter nights". There is an annual event the end of December which I have never participated in. It is right down my alley being one of the "slow" generals. It is Straight Key Night. No bugs or keyers or keyboards allowed. It starts New Years Eve night and runs into New Years Day. I can loan out the Foot key for anyone who needs a challenge.

Enough for now. See you at the Ice Cream feed. 73, John KA7TTY

on contract to provide continuing teacher support throughout the year, as well as instruction at future Teachers Institutes.

If you have an Amateur Extra class license as well as a current teaching credential or equivalent college/university teaching experience, the ARRL would like to hear from you. Applicants should also have experience using ham radio in a school curriculum and an extensive familiarity with electronics and wireless technology. Qualified applicants should also be able to connect with teachers working in a variety of classroom environments and with a variety of age groups.

If you are interested in applying for this exciting opportunity, please visit the information page <<http://www.arrl.org/es/ti-instructor.html>> to learn more about the positions and application instructions. - The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 46, November 16, 2007- S

Irish Amateurs Now Able to Apply for Permission to Operate on 5 MHz

Four 3 kHz channels at 5 MHz are being granted to Irish amateurs, according to the Irish Radio Transmitters Society (IRTS), Ireland's IARU Member-Society. These frequencies are centered on 5.280, 5.290, 5.400 and 5.405 MHz (the suppressed-carrier frequency for USB is 1.5 kHz lower). This follows extensive contacts with the military authorities and with the Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg -- Ireland's equivalent of the FCC)

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SQUAKBOX

This newsletter is published monthly for the members of the Issaquah ARC W7BI. Items for publication must be received by the 15th day of the month preceding publication. Send items to:

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Material may also be sent via E-Mail at w7bi@qsl.net.

The IARC is a nonprofit organization registered in the State of Washington and is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). Visit our WEB page at: <http://www.qsl.net/w7bi/>

Membership is open to anyone regardless of age, sex, race, national origin, religion, or amateur radio license status. Dues are \$20 per year for a family membership, free for those under 19 years of age.

A two-month courtesy mailing of this newsletter will be made to meeting visitors and others upon request.

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– Coming Events –

- **December 5, 2007** - Monthly Issaquah ARC meeting at the Issaquah Valley Senior Citizens Center, 75 NE Creek Way, Issaquah. Doors open at 7:00 PM, the meeting begins promptly at 7:30 PM and the program begins at 8:00 PM. Refreshments are provided.
- **December 26, 2007** - Issaquah Ham Radio Support Group – NO meeting in December.
January 2, 2007 - Monthly Issaquah ARC meeting. See Dec. 5th for time and location.
- **January 28, 2007** - Issaquah Ham Radio Support Group meeting, Police Station, Issaquah, talk-in 146.56 MHz at 7:00 PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM.
- **February 6, 2007** - Monthly Issaquah ARC meeting. See Jan. 2nd for time and location.

Irish Amateurs Cont.

by the IRTS. The facility will be available for an initial trial period of a year and individual application is required. The power allowed will be 23 dBW (200 W) to an antenna with not more than 0 dBd gain (e.g. a dipole). Some or all of these channels are also in

use in the UK, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Canada and the US. Some administrative details remain to be attended to by ComReg but it is anticipated that the first variations of licenses could be issued at the end of November or early December. The IRTS

stresses that individuals must apply to operate at these 5 MHz frequencies. Permission for a 5 MHz beacon has been granted; a call sign and frequency are in the works. - The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 46, November 16, 2007 – S

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2007 - 7:30 PM

Talk-in frequency: 146.56 MHz

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE
--- TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

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