

RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OCTOBER, 2009 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER INDIANAPOLIS, IN

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB WILL BE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13th, 6:30 PM AT THE [G.T. SOUTH'S](#),
5711 E. 71st STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

RCA ARC NEWS -- The September meeting was conducted by vice president Dave Jarvis, N9KZJ. K9RU was on vacation. Clarence, W2PGS, announced the Club has acquired the W9RCA.com domain name and that either .com or .org would get you to the W9RCA home page. N9KZJ reported on the progress being made at the USS Indianapolis radio room display at the Indiana War Memorial. The Indianapolis Radio Club will be holding their Sept. meeting at the Memorial. Dave also mentioned the upcoming IRC Hilltop event. The series of W9IMS special event operations have concluded for this year.

K9LZJ RECIEVES THE IRCC 2009 TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD -- Hank Wolfla, K9LZJ, was awarded the Indiana Radio Club Council Technical Excellence Award at the Indianapolis Hamfest, in July. According to the IRCC web site, "Hank was cited for his enthusiasm in promoting Software Designed Radio technology. "Since getting his license in 1958, Hank has been a mentor for ham radio operators both young and old. He has always been willing to share his knowledge of developing new antennas and building remote controlled ham stations." Hank was introduced to ham radio by another Indianapolis ham, Bob Osterhous, W9PSE. According to Bob, "He rode over to my house when he was 14 years old and heard me on the air. We have been HAM - friends since about 1953."

10 M LINK OPERATIONAL ON W9WIN SYSTEM -- The W9WIN folks have added a 10 meter link on their system. The frequency information for it is: 29.680RX, 29.580TX, with a PL of 136.5. This link is located in Buddha, Indiana in Lawrence County. For those of you not familiar with the W9WIN system, it is a linked repeater system that covers a good deal of central and southern Indiana. Go to <http://www.w9win.org> to learn more about the system.

INDIANAPOLIS VE TESTING SCHEDULE -- Calling in advance to ensure testing availability is suggested but not mandatory. Walk-ins are accepted.

SPONSOR: Indianapolis Radio Club (W9JP)

LOCATION: Indianapolis Training Center (ITC), 2820 N. Meridian Street.

TIME: All testing starts at 9:00 AM

CONTACTS: Gale Wuollet (317-849-8449), <mailto:indy33windy@comcast.net> or Dovid Ofstein (317-908-5125) doctoro57@yahoo.com

November 7, 2009 liaison is Dovid Ofstein (N9APE)

December 5, 2009 liaison is Gale Wuollet (AA9WU)

HAMFESTS & EVENTS

Oct 10	Lake County, Lake County Fair Grounds. Crown Point, IN
Oct 24-25	CQ World Wide Phone Contest
Nov 14-15	Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo, Fort Wayne, IN+

ARRL BOARD ADOPTS GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE APPROPRIATE USE OF AMATEUR RADIO

On Friday, September 25, the ARRL Board of Directors adopted guidelines on the appropriate use of Amateur Radio on behalf of commercial, non-profit and government entities, as well as recommendations for additional steps to be taken by the ARRL to educate radio amateurs and others on how to prepare and train for public service and emergency communications while complying with the current FCC Rules.

At its meeting in July 2009, the ARRL Board created an ad-hoc committee to study the issue and prepare suggested guidelines. The committee submitted its report to the ARRL Executive Committee, which reviewed and revised the document. After additional discussion among Board members by electronic mail and teleconference, the Executive Committee submitted the document to the Board for formal adoption.

Entitled [*The Commercialization of Amateur Radio: The Rules, The Risks, The Issues*](#), the document offers guidelines to assist radio amateurs and anyone wishing to utilize the capabilities of Amateur Radio in understanding the FCC Rules that prohibit communications in which the amateur has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer. While the FCC Rules in this regard have not changed in many years, there has been increasing discussion of the issue as growing numbers of employers and non-amateur organizations recognize the value of Amateur Radio as an emergency communications resource and encourage their employees to obtain amateur licenses. Also included are guidelines for evaluating the appropriateness of Amateur Radio volunteers providing communications services to commercial enterprises and other entities for which other communications systems are available.

"The guidelines are not intended to be the last word on the subject, and surely will not be," observed ARRL First Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN, and chair of the ad-hoc committee. "The report includes several recommendations for additional steps that the ARRL needs to take to help amateurs and the organizations we serve to better understand the Rules and to ensure that what we do to prepare to be of service in emergencies is consistent with the current Rules." --ARRL Letter

PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR WRC-12

Approximately 200 participants came together in an ITU preliminary meeting that ended September 16 in Geneva, Switzerland to help African countries prepare for the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12). The six regional telecommunications organizations -- APT (Asia-Pacific), ASMG (Arab States), ATU (Africa), CEPT (Europe), CITEL (the Americas) and RCC (independent states of the former Soviet Union) -- were represented at the meeting. This meeting was part of a series of ongoing international and regional preparatory meetings to allow government and industry to address the far-reaching and complex agenda of the WRC-12. ARRL Technical Relations Specialist Jonathan Siverling, WB3ERA, and IARU Region 1 Vice President Tafa Diop, 6W1KI, were among the participants.

WRC-12, which will be held in Geneva from January 23-February 17, 2012, will review the international treaty that governs radiocommunications -- the ITU Radio Regulations. The conference will be preceded by the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-12), also to be held in Geneva, January 16-20, 2012.

The agenda for WRC-12, developed by the delegates at the last WRC in Geneva in 2007 (WRC-07), was formally adopted by the ITU Council in 2008. There are 25 agenda items addressing potential new or revised spectrum allocations to existing services. Of most interest to amateurs is agenda item 1.23,

"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."

Along with IARU volunteers worldwide, Price and Siverling are monitoring developments on a number of other agenda items that could affect Amateur Radio if they take unanticipated turns, including:

- * Agenda item 1.14, considering requirements for and implementation of the radiolocation service (radar) between 30-300 MHz.

- * Agenda item 1.15, considering possible allocations between 3-50 MHz for oceanographic radar applications.

- * Agenda item 1.19, considering regulatory measures to enable software-defined and cognitive radio systems.

- * Agenda item 1.22, examining the effect of emissions from short-range devices.

"Oceanographic radar is perhaps our biggest defensive issue," Price said. "Fortunately, its proponents have acknowledged that sharing with Amateur Radio would be problematic." – ARRL Letter

CALIFORNIA FIRM FINED \$4000 FOR OPERATING ON AMATEUR FREQUENCIES

On September 28, the FCC issued a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture* ([NAL](#)) to a California firm that the Commission maintains was using amateur frequencies to conduct business. According to the Commission, Shimmick Construction Company Inc/Obayashi Corporation, Joint Venture ("Shimmick-Obayashi") -- licensees of stations WQER756, WQEN793, WQJI360 and WQKG818 -- apparently repeatedly violated [Section 1.903\(a\)](#) of the Commission's Rules "by failing to operate only in accordance with the rules applicable to their particular service as set forth in the Commission's Rules and with a valid authorization granted by the Commission."

Background -- On two separate occasions in May 2009, the FCC's Los Angeles office received complaints that a concrete delivery company was operating numerous mobile stations in Yorba Linda, California, on 146.025 MHz, a frequency allocated exclusively to the Amateur Radio Service.

On May 26, 2009, an agent from the Los Angeles office used radio direction finding techniques to locate transmissions on 146.025 MHz from a construction site in Yorba Linda California; the transmissions were not identified by call sign. "The transmissions monitored by the Los Angeles agent related to mixing and delivery of concrete on the construction site," the *NAL* stated. "The Los Angeles agent then viewed the construction site and correlated the movement of concrete trucks with associated radio transmissions on 146.025 MHz."

The next day -- May 27 -- the same agent again used radio direction finding techniques to "positively locate" the source of transmissions on 146.025 MHz to the construction site. The Los Angeles agent visited the site and spoke with the Shimmick-Obayashi supervisor of the on-site concrete plant, and according to the *NAL*, allowed the Los Angeles agent to inspect several of the handheld radios in use at the site. "The Los Angeles agent confirmed that the frequency 146.025 MHz was programmed into frequency selector position #5 on numerous Motorola model CP200 portable transceivers that were being used to coordinate construction operations throughout the site," the *NAL* stated. "The Shimmick-Obayashi construction supervisor told the Los Angeles agent that he did not know anything about a license for the radios, but that he would immediately stop using the Amateur Radio Service frequency programmed in position #5 on the Motorola CP200 transceivers."

On May 28, the Los Angeles agent researched the Commission's records and determined that the two companies that had formed the joint venture Shimmick-Obayashi -- Shimmick Construction Inc and Obayashi Corporation -- were both Commission licensees. Shimmick Construction, Inc holds

Industrial Radio Service licenses WQJ1360 and WQKG818 that authorize operations nationwide, including in Yorba Linda, California, but neither of these licenses authorize use of 146.025 MHz. Obayashi Corporation holds Industrial Radio Service licenses WQER756 and WQEN793, but neither of these licenses authorizes use of 146.025 MHz. The research also revealed that the Shimmick-Obayashi joint venture, as an entity, did not hold any Commission licenses.

Actions -- Section 503(b) of the [Communications Act of 1934, as amended](#), provides that any person who willfully or repeatedly fails to comply substantially with the terms and conditions of any license or willfully or repeatedly fails to comply with any of the provisions of the Communications Act or of any rule, regulation or order issued by the Commission shall be liable for a forfeiture penalty. According to the FCC, the term "willful" as used in Section 503(b) has been interpreted to mean simply that the acts or omissions are committed knowingly. The term "repeated" means the commission or omission of such act more than once or for more than one day.

ARRL Official Observers -- Although they weren't mentioned in the *NAL*, several ARRL Official Observers (OOs) assisted ARRL Orange Section Official Observer Coordinator Dan Welch, W6DFW, in responding to the complaint; local amateurs Richard Clark, N6UZS, and Richard Saunders, K6RBS, did preliminary work, as well. Welch then coordinated the DFing efforts -- aided by Bob Thornburg, WB6JPI -- and the information gathered was passed on to the local FCC office, enabling them to promptly respond to the complaint. Welch told the ARRL that the local FCC office routinely supports the efforts of the Official Observers and the amateur community in resolving this type of complaint, and their follow-up is very much appreciated by them. --ARRL Letter

AMATEURS WITH GENERAL CLASS LICENSES TO BE GRANTED RECIPROCAL LICENSES IN SOME CEPT COUNTRIES

On Thursday, September 10, the Federal Communications Commission released a new Public Notice implementing changes in CEPT reciprocal operating arrangements for US citizens who hold an FCC-issued General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio licenses. DA-09-2031 continues to allow US licensees "to utilize temporarily an amateur station in a European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) <http://www.cept.org/> country that has implemented certain recommendations with respect to the United States," subject to the regulations in that country and implements recent changes in the agreement http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2031A1.pdf.

When an Amateur Radio operator with US citizenship holds an Advanced or Amateur Extra Class license, they continue to be granted CEPT Radio Amateur License privileges in accordance with CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 (as amended), there is no change in reciprocity for those license classes.

What has changed is that US citizens holding a General class license -- who had lost all CEPT reciprocal privileges in 2008 -- are now granted CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License privileges in accordance with ECC Recommendation (05)06 (as amended) <http://www.erotocdb.dk/docs/doc98/Official/word/Rec0506.doc>.

The Public Notice states that while operating an amateur station in a CEPT country, the person "must have in his or her possession a copy of this Public Notice, proof of US citizenship and evidence of an FCC-issued Amateur Radio license. These documents must be shown to proper authorities upon request." The Public Notice can be found online on the FCC's Web site http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2031A1.pdf.

According to ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, the changes in the CEPT reciprocity are a two-part result of changes made by the European Communications Office (ECO) in February 2008 when they re-examined US license class equivalency in comparison to their HAREC examination contest. "The result of that review was full CEPT reciprocity was only granted to

US Amateur Extra and Advanced class licensees, leaving US General and Technician class operators without CEPT reciprocal privileges." The new public notice now reflects that change. It did not extend those privileges to US Technician class licensees.

Henderson stated that it is important to note two things about ECC Recommendation (05)06: "First, not all European countries have implemented this recommendation. Therefore, a US General class operator does not have reciprocal privileges in many countries, including popular US travel destinations like Italy, the UK or France. Second, as with any reciprocal operation, the band frequencies and privileges are those allowed by your host country -- they are not the frequencies and privileges extended by your FCC license

CEPT countries participating in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 as of September 10, 2009 include Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Estonia, Finland, France (including Corsica, Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Martinique, St Bartholomew, St Pierre and Miquelon, St Martin, Reunion and its Dependencies, Mayotte, French Antarctica, French Polynesia and Clipperton, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna), Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Monaco, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom(including Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man).

CEPT countries participating in ECC Recommendation (05)06 as of September 10, 2009 are Belgium, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Germany, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland. –ARRL Letter

GOVERNOR'S \$250,000 GRANT TO AMATEUR RADIO GOES ONLINE AS OREGON HAMS INSTALL NEW WINLINK SYSTEM

This month, Oregon ARES members will complete the state-wide installation of Winlink, thanks to a \$250,000 grant from Governor Ted Kulongoski. In 2007, the governor was impressed by the hams' ability to handle emergency communications when severe winter storms wreaked havoc on Oregon's North Coast and flooded the City of Vernonia, knocking out 911 services, Internet and phone service for an extended period of time. The Oregon Office of Emergency Management said that during the storms, the radio operators were "tireless in their efforts to keep the systems connected." When even state police had difficulty reaching some of their own troops, ham radio worked, setting up networks so emergency officials could communicate and relaying lists of supplies needed in stricken areas.

The equipment will be installed in the Emergency Operating Center in each of Oregon's 36 counties. Once the monies were distributed, ARES members researched and purchased the equipment that would be needed, formalized and signed contracts between the state, counties and ARES, and allocated space to install the antennas and equipment within each EOC. The project is scheduled to be completed in time for the 2009 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) scheduled for October 3-4. –ARRL Letter

DO YOU OPERATE ON 40 METERS?

If you haven't been on 40 meters lately, you're in for a real treat! Years of patient effort by the ARRL and by our sister members of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) have paid off.

The band is more useful now than it's been in more than 70 years. When you think of 40 meters, you probably think of interference from foreign broadcasters. Here in the Americas, amateurs always have had access to 7,000-7,300 kHz - but we had to tolerate broadcasters in the rest of the world in the

upper two-thirds of the band. Most of us have had the experience of trying to operate between the broadcasting behemoths in the evening without much luck.

At the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) -- 40 years later in Geneva the amateurs had made the case for a wider worldwide amateur band, free of broadcasting interference. For the first time in the history of radio communication, an HF broadcasting allocation would be shifted in order to accommodate the needs of another radio service -- the Amateur Radio Service!

The WRC-03 decision "very gratifying, but the important question remained: Would the broadcasters really move? The International Telecommunication Union has no enforcement authority and operation in contravention of the international Radio Regulations is not exactly unknown. In fact, the transition turned out to be quite dramatic. On the last weekend of March, on Friday evening 7,100-7,200 kHz was full of broadcasters as usual -- but as the new seasonal broadcasting schedule took effect on Saturday night the band cleared of all but a few. For the very first time our overseas friends could hear us on 40 meter phone without having to breach the wall of broadcasters! Over the past six months the situation has continued to improve as more broadcasters have complied with the WRC-03 decision. Nighttime operation above 7,200 kHz remains a challenge, but it's not an exaggeration to say that 40 meters is like a whole new band.

Moving hundreds of broadcast transmitters in dozens of countries out of a band didn't just happen: It took years of patient effort by a global team of volunteers and ARRL professionals, working through the IARU, to overcome objections and marshal the necessary support. It was an expensive undertaking, and it never could have been accomplished without the voluntary contributions - above and beyond their basic dues - of thousands of ARRL members.

Decisions for WRC-12 are being made now that will determine how many administrations -- including the United States - will support a new secondary allocation to the Amateur Service at 500 kHz, and whether proposals for allocations to oceanographic radars will threaten some of our existing HF bands. "We are hard at work meeting these challenges, but we need your help," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ said, in asking for support for the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. "Members' past response helped us to keep commercial satellites out of the 144 and 420 MHz bands, to gain access to frequencies around 5 MHz, and to win our court challenge of the FCC's flawed Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) rules. New challenges keep cropping up. Currently we are working to ensure that new short-range medical devices do not impact our ability to use our UHF and microwave bands."

To help in the ARRL's ongoing mission to protect our valuable spectrum, please visit the Spectrum Defense area on the ARRL Web site <https://www.arrl.org/forms/fdefense/>. You can also reach ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, at 860-594-0397 or via e-mail <mailto:k1mmh@arrl.org>. Special gifts are being offered for contributions, including a mug and pin. More details on thank you gifts can be found on the donation form for the Spectrum Defense Fund.

SHORTS

SOLAR UPDATE -- Tad "[Like the bright spots that move about the Sun](#)" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Sweet memories of the 11-day run of sunspots toward the end of last month are fading, and so far, the days of zero sunspots are at six, with the last sunspot seen on October 1. A peek at [the latest STEREO images](#) shows two active areas in our Sun's southern hemisphere beyond our direct view, but it is hard to tell if these will emerge as sunspots when they appear over the eastern limb. A rough guess has the first one possibly emerging around October 10, with the second around a week later. Currently, the solar flux forecast shows flux values lower than 70 through October 15, then around 72 during the two-week period from October 16-30. The same NOAA/USAF forecast predicts the same very quiet geomagnetic conditions that we've seen for some time, with planetary A index around 5. Two very small increases are predicted for October 11-12 -- with an A index of 7 -- and October 24-25, with the

A index at 8. Average sunspot numbers for the week dropped 15.3 points below the September 24-30 period, and the average daily solar flux for the week declined 2.2 points to 70.5. We'll also go over some e-mail about propagation via ground fog -- mentioned in last week's bulletin -- in the Solar Update, available on the ARRL Web site on Friday, October 9. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the [ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page](#). --ARRL Letter

ASTRONAUT FERNANDO "FRANK" CALDEIRO, KE4RFI (SK) -- NASA Astronaut Fernando "Frank" Caldeiro, KE4RFI, passed away on October 3 after a more than two year battle with a brain tumor. He was 51. Caldeiro was a member of the Astronaut Class of 1996 and most recently was assigned to the WB-57 High Altitude Research Program within the Aircraft Operations Division at Ellington Field in Houston. In that role, he directed the integration and conducted the operation of high-altitude atmospheric research experiments carried on board the NASA WB-57 aircraft. "Frank was a valued member of the astronaut corps and the Flight Crew Operations team," said NASA's Director of Flight Crew Operations Brent Jett. "He provided a wealth of experience and made significant contributions to the success of both the WB-57 project and the space shuttle program. He will be missed by all those who knew him at NASA. Our hearts go out to his family." Caldeiro was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, but he considered New York City and Merritt Island, Florida, to be his hometowns. He is survived by his wife, the former Donna Marie Emero of Huntington Beach, California, and two daughters. --ARRL Letter

OPERATING: INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS (IRCS): OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW -- It is now time to start dumping your old International Reply Coupons (IRCs). The "[Beijing Model No 2](#)" must be redeemed before December 31, 2009. The new IRC -- the [Nairobi Model IRC](#) -- has been available in the US since September 10 and elsewhere since July; the price is \$2.10 each in the US. The Nairobi Model is due to expire in 2013. For more information, click [here](#). Thanks to [The Daily DX](#) for the information.

MANUFACTURER OF TEXAS BUG CATCHER ANTENNA TO CEASE OPERATIONS -- After October 31, 2009, GLA Systems -- the manufacturer of the Texas Bug Catcher antennas <<http://www.texasbugcatcher.com/>> -- will cease taking orders for new antennas; according to their Web site, all orders received before that date will be filled. "Effective November 1, only orders for items that are in stock at the time will be accepted. Effective December 31, 2009, the toll free line, 1-800-588-2841, will be discontinued." No reason was given for the closure, but on GLA's Web site, owner Henry Allen, K5BUG, said. "It has been a fun 30 years, but it is time to hang it up. I would like to thank everyone who has made this experience possible."

RF CONCEPTS LLC BUYS ALPHA RADIO PRODUCTS - RF Concepts, LLC, has acquired the assets of Alpha Radio Products and will manufacture the world famous amplifiers and other Alpha Radio products. Michael Seedman, AA6DY, is the Chairman RFConcepts, LLC. He says that the Alpha 9500 and 8410 amplifiers, the Model 2100 Dummy Load/Wattmeter combo and line of 4500 Wattmeters will continue to be manufactured and available. Also the new company will honor existing customer commitments, including warranties, customer and technical support, and repairs. It will also keep an extensive parts inventories to support the more than 10,000 Alpha amplifiers in the market. (RFConcepts, LLC)

CQ ANNOUNCES 75TH ANNIVERSARY WORKED ALL ZONES AWARD - The November, 1934, issue of **R/9** magazine announced the **Worked All Zones** for radio amateurs for contacting stations across the globe. The award was granted to stations for making confirmed contacts with hams in each of the 40 zones into which the world had been divided by R/9's editors. Today, 75 years later, R/9 has been succeeded by **CQ** magazine and **WAZ** - Worked All Zones - sponsored by CQ since 1945, continues to be one of amateur radio's most prestigious operating awards.

In celebration of the WAZ's 75th anniversary, CQ magazine is announcing a limited-term "**Diamond Jubilee WAZ**" award.

A special certificate will be issued to amateurs who make contacts in all 40 CQ Zones of the World between November 1, 2009 and December 31, 2010. Certificates will be numbered but there will be no endorsements. Confirmations will not be required. However, it is expected that applicants will continue to uphold amateur radio's long-standing tradition of honesty and self-regulation. Standard WAZ application fees will apply.

Complete details on the Diamond Jubilee WAZ Award will be in the October 2009 issue of CQ, and are posted on the CQ website, www.cq-amateur-radio.com, with a link from the October issue highlights page.

More information on the WAZ award program is available on the CQ website at www.cq-amateur-radio.com/awards.html

WEBINAR ON REMOTE CONTROL OPERATING PLANNED -- With the growing limits imposed on hams due to antenna restrictions, interest is growing in operating amateur stations by remote control. With that in mind, Bob Arnold, N2JEU, one of the pioneers of Internet remote station control, is organizing an Internet-based live conference, or webinar, on the topic. The conference would feature a guest panel comprised of amateurs currently involved in remote operations, both at the operating and software levels. Interested hams could listen to the live audio stream and could ask questions via "text chat." Since he is presently organizing resources for this online event, Arnold is looking for feedback on what topics listeners would like to see addressed. He is also looking for information from people currently operating online remote stations. There is still room on the guest panel for additional participants. Authors of software that make remote operation possible are also asked to respond. If you would like to participate either as a guest or a listener, please contact Arnold via <http://www.n2jeu.net/> for any additional information on the conference as it becomes available. – ARRL Letter

MORE CUBESATS IN ORBIT - Early Thursday morning (UTC), an Indian PSLV-C14 rocket carried the Oceansat-2 satellite to orbit, along with four CubeSats and two RubinSats. The RubinSats are 8 kg research modules that will remain attached to the PSLV-C14 booster. CubeSats are very small satellites, typically only a few inches on each side. As they are a relatively inexpensive research spacecraft, they've become increasingly popular with university science programs. A number of CubeSats use Amateur Radio frequencies to downlink telemetry, as is the case with this latest group. Early reports indicate that all of the CubeSats are active. You can check out the frequencies and modes of the four satellites on the ARRL Web site.

HANDS FREE MOBILE OPERATIONS - will be required in the Ontario province of Canada for commercial, CB and amateur radio. The government will allow a three-year phase-out period to accommodate the switchover to hands free equipment.

Amateur Radio operators in Ontario contacted the government officials to lobby for an exemption but to paraphrase the response "thank you for your service, but this is a highway safety issue."

This is an Ontario law not a Canadian federal law, so it does not affect other Canadian provinces.

THE *RCA ARC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER* IS COMPILED AND EDITED BY JIM RINEHART, AND JIM KEETH. ALL MATERIAL CONTAINED HEREIN IS OBTAINED FROM THE SOURCES CREDITED AND EDITED FOR THIS NEWSLETTER. EMAIL TO <mailto:WebMaster@w9rca.org>. Check our web site at <http://www.w9rca.org/>