

# RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NOVEMBER, 2010    MONTHLY NEWSLETTER    INDIANAPOLIS, IN

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THE NEXT MEETING OF THE RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB WILL BE  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 6:30 PM AT [G.T. SOUTH'S](#),  
5711 E. 71<sup>st</sup> STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

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## RCA ARC NEWS

**SUMMARY OF THE OCTOBER MEETING** – At the October meeting, our annual election of officers was conducted. Jim Rinehart remains president, Dave Jarvis vice pres., and Barry George continues as treasurer. Jim Keeth will continue as acting secretary. Dave Jarvis announced the WW2IND station would be active for Veterans Day. The “free homebrew” parts listed on the web site will be given to Harold, KE6TI, when he visits Indy the end of October. K9RU announced there will be a W9IMS test session on Nov. 8. Remember the Ft. Wayne Hamfest on Saturday Nov. 13.

### AMATEUR RADIO TESTING --

**Date:** November 8, 2010

**Sponsor:** W9IMS Amateur Radio Club

**Time:** 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Jim Rinehart, (317) 218-7304 or [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)

**Location:** W9IMS Comm Center, 3321 N Gale St, Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Gale is a dead end street south off of 34<sup>th</sup> Street, about 2 blocks west of Sherman Drive. Look for the dead end sign, it looks more like an alley. The W9IMS Comm Center is at the end of the street in the first building on the east side. Parking is on the west side of the street.

The exam fee is \$15, a check made out to “ARRL VEC” is preferred, but we will accept cash. A picture ID plus one other ID is required. If you are upgrading, bring the original and a copy of your amateur radio license.

**ON THE AIR** -- Last weekend was the CQ World Wide Phone contest, probably the biggest DX contest of the year. Band conditions were not disappointing, 20 meters was packed, 15 meters was full end to end and providing contacts worldwide and 10 meters was open. Even with the great weather Sunday which made it hard to stay inside and work the contest, just a little time spent working the DX could provide a good entry and a lot of countries worked.

November offers the two premier stateside contests, the ARRL CW and Phone Sweepstakes. Unlike most contests, these two contests have a little more difficult report, so making a good two exchanges is a little more difficult. Check out the rules for the ARRL SS at [ARRL.org](http://ARRL.org).

**NEED AN INSTROGRAPH?** One was donated to the Club. Does anyone ~~need~~ want one? It's similar to the one shown here, <http://www.n4mw.com/cp110.htm>, except someone has modified it to add a transistor amplifier and speaker in the base. Has one reel of tape.

**TOWER VIDEO** – Here's a YouTube video you might want to take a look at if you haven't already seen it: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vQzPB7RkFKA>

## HAMFESTS, OPERATING EVENTS & TESTING

Nov. 6-8	Sweepstakes, CW
Nov. 13	Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo., <a href="http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com">http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com</a>
Nov. 20-22	ARRL Sweepstakes, Phone
Nov. 27	Evansville Hamfest, <a href="http://w9ear.org/hamfest.htm">http://w9ear.org/hamfest.htm</a>
Dec 3-5	ARRL 160 Meter Contest
Dec 11-12	ARRL 10 Meter Contest
Dec 19	ARRL Rookie Roundup
Mar 05	Dugger Hamfest, Dugger IN.
July 09	Indy Hamfest, Camp Sertoma, Indianapolis.

See the ARRL Contest Branch page, <http://www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues>, the WA7BNM Contest Calendar, <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/> and the ARRL Special Event Stations page, <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations> for more info.

## INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND CAMARADERIE HIGHLIGHT IARU REGION 2 CONFERENCE

The 58 delegates and observers who gathered in Salinitas, Sonsonate, El Salvador for the [17th General Assembly of IARU Region 2](#) experienced a busy and enjoyable week. The conference began on October 4 and concluded on October 8. Twelve IARU Member-Societies in the Americas were represented in person, with another seven represented by proxy. President Kay Craigie, N3KN, served as the voting delegate for the ARRL and was assisted by International Affairs Vice President Jay Bellows, K0QB, and Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. Observers from IARU Regions 1 and 3 and the International Secretariat were present to assist and to learn from the conferees.

The conference was formally opened by Dr Luis Méndez Menéndez, head of SIGET, the telecommunications administration of El Salvador. He brought the welcome news that El Salvador has acceded to the Protocol amending the Inter-American Convention on an International Amateur Radio Permit to extend its benefits to European holders of the CEPT Radio Amateur License and to amateurs from the Americas visiting CEPT countries. This step brings the Protocol of Amendment into force and will allow the regional telecommunications organizations for Europe and the Americas, CEPT and CITELEP respectively, to work out the administrative details. The arrangement will apply only to Panama and El Salvador until additional countries in the Americas accede to the Protocol of Amendment. The United States, Canada and Peru already participate in the CEPT arrangement.

Among numerous items of formal business, the General Assembly made minor corrections and additions to the Region 2 Band Plan; the revised LF/MF/HF Band Plan dated October 8, 2010 is now available (see PDF file below). With the successful implementation of a new procedure for reviewing and updating the Band Plan, the Region 2 HF Committee was eliminated.

An ARRL paper, "Amateur Radio Operators and Tropical Cyclone Events," was accepted for publication on the Region 2 Web site in both English and Spanish; it provides guidance for amateurs on how to prepare for hurricanes and typhoons.

A proposal by the Federación Mexicana de Radio Experimentadores to host the 18th Region 2 General Assembly in 2013 in Monterrey, Mexico was accepted with thanks. Visit the [IARU Region 2 Web site](#) for more information about IARU Region 2 and the 17th General Assembly. –ARRL Letter

## **DXCC NEWS: FOUR NEW ENTITIES PLACED ON DXCC LIST**

With the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles on October 10, two now-deleted DXCC entities are now four *new* DXCC entities, effective October 10, 2010. The island pair of Bonaire and Curaçao (PJ2 and PJ4, the Leeward Islands) and the three-island group of Sint Maarten, Saba and St Eustatius (PJ5, PJ6 and PJ7, the Windward Islands) have been deleted from the DXCC list of active entities and replaced with four new entities. Not since the aftermath of World War II -- with so many new European entities -- and the break-up of the French colonies in Africa in the early 1960s -- have so many new DXCC entities come into existence all at once.

On October 10, the US Department of State recognized the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles, placing the new entities on its Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty List, saying that "Curaçao and Sint Maarten (the Dutch two-fifths of the island of Saint Martin) became autonomous territories of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Bonaire, Saba, and St Eustatius now fall under the direct administration of the Netherlands."

According to the [DXCC rules](#), entities may be added or removed from the [DXCC List](#) as a result of political or geographic change. These new entities qualified to be listed on the DXCC List under Section 2, Rule 1(b) of the DXCC rules: "The entity contains a permanent population, is administered by a local government and is located at least 800 km from its parent. To satisfy the 'permanent population' and 'administered by a local government' criteria of this sub-section, an Entity must be listed on either (a) the US Department of State's list of 'Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty' as having a local 'Administrative Center,' or (b) the United Nations list of 'Non-Self-Governing Territories.'"

With so many DXCC entities all coming into being at the same time, many amateurs made their way to Curaçao (PJ2T, PJ2/OH1VR, PJ2/PB2T, PJ2A and PJ2MI), Sint Maarten (PJ7E, PJ7MF), Bonaire (PJ4B, PJ4D, PJ4I, PJ4LS and PJ4W), Saba (PJ6A) and St Eustatius (PJ5/AA4NC, PJ5/AH6HY and PJ5/K1XM) to put these new ones on the air. Beginning at 0400 UTC on October 10, the airwaves were filled with those looking to snag these new entities; just days after the entities became "live," stations on the islands had made more than 15,000 QSOs on SSB and CW.

Per the ARRL DXCC Desk, no confirmations for these new entities will be accepted until after January 1, 2011; other administrative changes will be announced as they are finalized. Look for more information on the ARRL Web site, in upcoming editions of *The ARRL Letter* and in the December 2010 issue of *QST*. --ARRL Letter

## **2010 ARRL FIELD DAY RESULTS NOW ONLINE**

If you can't wait to get your December issue of *QST* in the mail to see how you did in the 2010 ARRL Field Day, don't worry! The results -- including a copy of the *QST* article (with line scores) and a results database -- are now available on the ARRL Web site. Be sure to also check out the 193 comments in the Field Day Soapbox. It's not too soon to start making plans for next year -- the 2011 ARRL Field Day is scheduled for June 25-26, 2011. [W9JP, with W9RCA GOTA station, finished 35 out of all 343 entries in the 3A class. And, first in the 3A class for the state of Indiana.] --ARRL

## **US CHARGES K1MAN WITH FAILURE TO PAY FINE**

Two US Attorneys have filed a *Complaint* (see below) in US District Court against Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, for not responding appropriately to an order that he pay a \$21,000 fine for violating several sections of Part 97. The *Complaint* was filed October 25 in the US District Court for Maine.

The civil action was brought under Section 503(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 1.80 of the FCC Rules and Regulations.

The fine had been levied, according to the *Complaint*, “for defendant’s willful and repeated violations of Sections 97.101(d) [commencing transmissions on top of existing communications on 3.890 MHz] and 97.113(a)(3) [transmitting communications in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest] of the Commission’s Rules, and for the defendant’s willful violation of Section 97.105(a) [exercising control over station] and 97.113(b) [broadcasting] of the Rules, and for failure to file requested information pursuant to an Enforcement Bureau directive.” [information in brackets added]

The *Complaint* seeks to force payment of the \$21,000 fine along with a filing fee and “such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.” Additional FCC actions are anticipated. –ARRL Letter

## FORMER TRI-EX TOWER OWNER FRANK CLEMENT, W6KPC, S.K.

The changing of the guard continues with the sad news that High Frequency antenna pioneer Frank Clement, W6KPC, of Bakersfield, California, has become a Silent Key. Clement, age 93, died on September 23rd as a result of a highway accident.

Frank Clement, W6KPC, was best known in ham radio circles as the former owner of Tri-Ex Towers. He also designed and built a number of high performance High Frequency antenna arrays over the course of several decades.

In 2006, The Radio Club of America honored W6KPC with its Barry M. Goldwater Amateur Radio Award. The award recognized his accomplishments in designing and manufacturing towers and designing and constructing his famed Yagi Sextet. The Sextet was once described as North America’s largest amateur radio phased HF Yagi system.

Frank Clement is survived by his wife, Chong Ye. A graveside service was held on October 4 in, Delano, California. Memorial contributions can be made to The A. J. F. Clement Memorial Fund, Kern Schools Federal Credit Union, PO Box 9506, Bakersfield, CA 93389. (QCWA, RCA, ARRL, others

## TWO NEW ARRL KITS COMING SOON

Two new ARRL kits are in the final throes of production. The first is a Morse code oscillator, produced for ARRL by MFJ Enterprises. The project is a good "beginners" electronics kit. We expect the kit will be popular with members, particularly newcomers, and with clubs, instructors and teachers seeking a classroom kit-building experience. A supplementary resource guide for students and educators will be made available by the ARRL Education and Technology Program. The guide helps cover the fundamentals of the working circuit and its components.

A second kit is a PIC programming lab and project, produced for ARRL by Cana Kit (Canada). This more substantial kit is intended to be used with [ARRL's PIC Programming for Beginners](#) book (revised first edition). The kit includes all the necessary components, parts and boards, and follows the book's step-by-step exercises and tutorial. The kit also includes all the necessary parts to build a microprocessor-controlled CW keyer, which is the book's culminating project.

"We're excited about these new projects, which help emphasize kit construction, basic electronics, and the extraordinary potential of microcontrollers," said ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen,

NQ1R. "There's no better way to advance the radio art than by introducing more hams to project building and homebrewing." Order your [ARRL Morse Code Oscillator](#) and [ARRL PIC Programming Kit](#) today in the [ARRL Online Store](#).

## G3XBM ACHIEVES 1733 KM ON 500 KHZ USING LOW POWER WSPR

A new 500 KHz distance record may have been set on Thursday, October 21st. This when Roger Laphorn, G3XBM, in Cambridge, England was heard some 1733 km away in Finland by Paul Henrik, OH1LSQ.

According to Laphorn, he was operating on 500 KHz using the digital mode W-S-P-R commonly called wisper in the ham radio world. Laphorn says that quite unexpectedly, he began receiving a string of reports from OH1LSQ in grid square KP03sd at an astounding distance of 1733 km.

Laphorn said that to him these were amazing reports pushing his best DX on the band to new levels. This is because he runs only a few milliwatts effective radiated power on that band. He also notes that his transmit antenna is a very simple vertical loop made with wire only 1 millimeter thick. (Southgate)

## ARRL REPLIES TO WIRELESS SERVICES FILING IN 2304 MHZ BAND INTERFERENCE DEBATE

On October 28, 2010, the ARRL filed a *Reply* to a Wireless Services *Opposition* filing, the latest in an ongoing series of exchanges regarding the FCC's proposal to allow mobile broadband services, in addition to fixed services, to operate in parts of the 2.3 GHz band. The Amateur Radio Service has a secondary allocation at 2300-2310 MHz.

**Here is a brief recap of the previous actions that led to the ARRL's latest filing:** *May 20, 2010:* The FCC adopted amendments to its rules for Wireless Communications Services (WCS) in the 2.3 GHz band to permit mobile broadband services, in addition to fixed services, in the 2305-2317.5 and 2347.5-2360 MHz bands.

**September 1, 2010:** Concerned with the potential for harmful interference to amateur operations at 2.3 GHz, the ARRL filed a *Petition for Clarification or Partial Reconsideration* with regard to one aspect of the new rules.

**October 18, 2010:** The WCS Coalition filed an *Opposition* to the ARRL *Petition*.

In its September 1 filing, the ARRL requested that the Commission affirm: 1) That the current out-of-band emission (OOBE) limits for WCS devices set forth at [Section 27.53\(a\)\(3\)](#) of the Commission's rules continue to apply to mobile, portable and fixed facilities across the *entirety of the 2300-2305 MHz band* following the rule changes implemented in the FCC's original *Report and Order*. 2) That [Section 2.102\(f\)](#) of the Commission's rules applies to Wireless Communications Service (WCS) fixed and mobile operations, so that harmful interference that is caused to Amateur Radio Service operations in the 2300-2305 MHz band is to be remedied by WCS licensees.

If the Commission wasn't able to take positive action on these requests, the ARRL asked that the *R&O* be reconsidered. Further background appears in the [article](#) reporting on the September 1 ARRL *Petition*.

In its October 18 *Opposition* to this filing, the WCS raised no objection to the first request but opposed the second. The WCS, in essence, claimed that because the Amateur Service is secondary at 2300-

2305 MHz and they are primary above 2305 MHz, they are not obligated to protect the Amateur Service from harmful interference.

**The ARRL Reply states in part:** “WCS licensees, under existing rules: (1) have no entitlement to cause interference to licensed radio services outside of the Part 27 allocations beginning above 2305 MHz; and (2) *do* in fact have an obligation pursuant to Section 2.102(f) of the Commission’s Rules [47 C.F.R. 2.102(f)] to protect Amateur station operation in the 2300-2305 MHz band from interference due to WCS transmissions above 2305 MHz. Section 2.102(f) states that “(t)he stations of a service shall use frequencies so separated from the limits of a band allocated to that service as not to cause harmful interference *to allocated services* in immediately adjoining frequency bands....

“The 2305-2310 MHz segment is allocated to the WCS now on a primary basis and to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis. There is no doubt but that at 2305-2310 MHz, Amateur operations are secondary to WCS operations and are not protected from interference from WCS facilities. However, *WCS has no allocation below 2305 MHz*, and the Commission’s rules (and the domestic Table of Allocations, Section 2.106 of the Commission’s rules) are quite clear that WCS licensees enjoy no entitlement to disrupt adjacent band radio services, and never have.”

The ARRL Reply points out that Section 2.102(f) “is taken almost verbatim from the international Radio Regulations, and so could not have had the limited application that WSC erroneously surmises that the Commission intended.”

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, commented: “We are helped by the FCC rule that specifically says what we urged the FCC to clarify. That rule comes from the international Radio Regulations.” --ARRL Letter

## SHORTS

**ARRL SWEEPSTAKES** - has been part of Amateur Radio in the US and Canada for more than 75 years. In 2010, the tradition continues with the 77th running of the best domestic contest in all of Amateur Radio: CW will be the weekend of November 6, while the Phone portion of the contest runs the weekend of November 20. The 2010 ARRL November CW Sweepstakes runs from 2100 UTC Saturday, November 6 through 0300 UTC Monday, November 8. The SSB portion of Sweepstakes runs from 2100 UTC Saturday, November 20 through 0300 UTC Monday, November 22. Why not make plans now to join thousands of other radio amateurs across the continent and get in on this year’s fun in the ARRL November Sweepstakes! Read more [here](#). --ARRL Letter

**TALK RADIO HOST ART BELL W6OBB REPORTED ACTIVE FROM MANILA** -- Art Bell, W6OBB, overnight talk radio host has been heard as 4F1AB from Manila, in the Philippines where he now lives. His activity seems to be on 20 and 15 meters SSB after 1200 UTC. Information on QRZ.com states that he is active on 40 through 10 meters, and he often listens on 14.315 MHz. QSL’s go to W6OBB via his Nevada address. (OPDX)

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