

# RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OCTOBER, 2012

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

INDIANAPOLIS, IN



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

## RCA ARC NEWS

**SUMMARY OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING** – Thanks to all who attended the 11-September meeting. The progress on the '88 repeater operation was discussed. The basic repeater has been operational since the 26<sup>th</sup> of August. The antenna height is just shy of 200 ft. located near I-465 and west 10<sup>th</sup> St. There are two of the original receive sites in operation in addition the receiver at the transmitter site. The West and North receive sites are operational. Batteries were purchased for the two UPS units, one for the repeater control computer and one for the Echolink computer. The site has emergency power which is tested each week, but there may be a short interruption at switch-over. Echolink is planned but hasn't been implemented yet. Our perennial Club treasurer, Barry George, W3BG, announced he is moving to Utah resigned from the position. Greg Holbrook, KC9TNR, volunteered to assume the responsibilities of treasurer. The September ARRL VHF contest and the upcoming CQWW DX and ARRL SS contests were discussed.

**NEXT TEST SESSION:** Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Starting at 12PM

**Location:** Public Safety Commission, Communications Training Center,  
8468 E 21st St, Indianapolis, IN 46219

**Contact:** Rhonda Curtis WS9H

**Email:** [WS9H@comcast.net](mailto:WS9H@comcast.net)

**FOR SALE ITEMS FROM W9CGI** – Dave Brown, W9CGI, is offering a bunch of equipment for sale. This list is at the end of this newsletter. Dave says, "All sales are final but prices are negotiable. As always, you can contact me at W9CGI@ARRL.net."--W9CGI

## HAMFESTS, OPERATING EVENTS & TESTING

Oct 6 Hoosier Hills (Bedford) Hamfest, Lawrence Co. 4-H Fairgrounds

Oct 27-28 CQWW SSB DX Contest

Nov 3-5 ARRL SS CW

Nov 17-19 ARRL SS Phone

Nov 17 Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo, Ft. Wayne, IN <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

Nov. 24 Evansville Hamfest, Evansville, IN <http://w9ear.org/hamfest.htm>

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC.

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues> Contests updates

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/> WA7BNM Contest Calendar

<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations> ARRL Special Event Stations page

[http://www.arrl.org/exam\\_sessions/search](http://www.arrl.org/exam_sessions/search) ARRL training page for test sessions

<http://indyhams.org/events/> Indiana events and public service opportunities.

## HAMS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES HELP PUT KOSOVO ON THE AIR FOR THE FIRST TIME

On September 12, the Autoriteti Rregullativ i Telekomunikacionit (ART) -- Kosovo's telecommunications regulatory authority -- created the necessary legal framework for the development of an Amateur Radio Service in the Republic of Kosovo by approving its Regulation for Amateur Radio Services. Although not formally assigned a prefix by the International Telecommunication Union, Kosovo will use the **Z6** prefix. Currently, Kosovo does not count toward the ARRL's DXCC Award, as it has not been assigned a prefix by the ITU (per DXCC rule II.1.a), nor has it been recognized by the United Nations (per DXCC rule II.1.b).

Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF, and Bob Barden, MD0CCE/N2BB -- members of the Chiltern DX Club (CDXC) -- were part of a team of operators led by IARU Region 1 President Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, that activated Z60K, the first Amateur Radio station in the Republic of Kosovo. Along with Cawthorne, Barden and Blondeel Timmerman, the team included the following radio amateurs: Nik Percin, 9A5W; Emil Balen Zdravko, 9A9A; Emir Mahmutovic, 9A6AA; Martti Laine, OH2BH; Jorma Saloranta, OH2KI, and Pekka Holstila, OH2TA. Click [here](#) for Cawthorne's and Barden's account of the Z60K activation. --ARRL Letter

## SEAN SMITH, KG4WSS, KILLED IN CONSULATE ATTACK

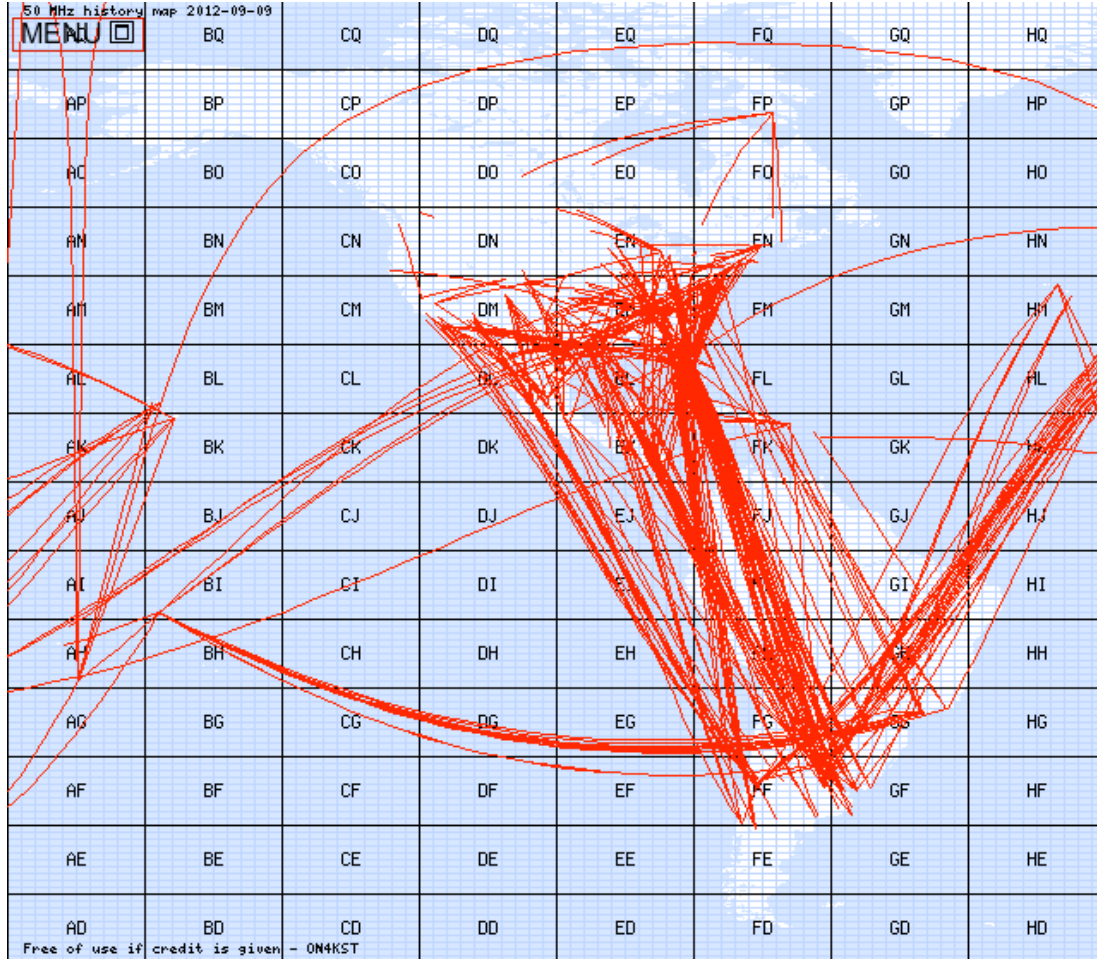
Sean P. Smith, KG4WSS, of Falls Church, Virginia, was killed when the US Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, was attacked on September 11. He was 34. Smith was one of four Americans, including Chris Stevens -- the US Ambassador to Libya -- who was killed in the attack. Smith, a native of San Diego, enlisted in the Air Force in 1995 at age 17. He served six years as a ground radio maintenance specialist, including a deployment to Oman, before leaving the service in 2002 as a staff sergeant. He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal. Smith, who had worked at the State Department for 10 years, was in Libya on a temporary assignment when he was killed. Prior to his temporary assignment to Benghazi, Smith served for the State Department in Brussels, Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal and The Hague.

Smith was well known in the online gaming community as an avid participant of the space fantasy game *EVE Online*, where he was known as "Vile Rat," one of the leaders of a gamers' alliance and renowned for his diplomatic skill in the multi-player space warfare simulation.

"If you play this stupid game, you may not realize it, but you play in a galaxy created in large part by Vile Rat's talent as a diplomat," said Smith's friend Alex Gianturco, in a tribute posted on his [website](#). No one focused as relentlessly on using diplomacy as a strategic tool as VR." Gianturco wrote that Smith had been under fire before, when he was posted to Baghdad. When that occurred, he usually broke off his messaging. "We'd freak out and he'd come back okay after a bit," Gianturco wrote. "But Tuesday night, after reporting 'GUNFIRE,' he disconnected and never returned." A few hours earlier that evening, Smith posted the following: "assuming we don't die tonight. We saw one of our 'police' that guard the compound taking pictures."

Smith is survived by his wife, Heather, and two young children, Samantha and Nathan. "They will grow up being proud of the service their father gave to our country, service that took him from Pretoria to Baghdad, and finally to Benghazi," Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said in a statement. -- *Thanks to The Washington Post, CNN, the US Air Force, Bill Cross, W3TN, and James Kirkham, W4HFK, for the information --ARRL Letter*

## SOME SURPRISING 6M OPENINGS IN THE SEPTEMBER VHF CONTEST



ON4KST 09-Sept-2012 Indiana is in the EM and EN grid Squares

There were some surprising propagation to the South Pacific during the September VHF contest. On Saturday, September 9th we also got a brief taste of what may have been sporadic E to F2 to the south Pacific. During the afternoon and evening there was sporadic E to Texas and that link provided a very brief opening to the South Pacific. Victor, E51USA in Rarotonga, South Cook Islands was heard in the eastern US.

The moral of all of this is that six meters is a band that is predictable by its unpredictability. Brief openings, often no more than a minute or two in length, do occur on what otherwise seems to be a closed band. With TEP season peaking, everyone should monitor the band and propagation monitors to catch the elusive, and often brief openings. -- W3CMP, Lancaster, PA, QRZ News

## THE REALLOCATION OF TV SPECTRUM IS MOVING AHEAD

As promised, the FCC unanimously adopted rulemaking aimed at shifting a large, but undefined swatch of TV spectrum to wireless broadband services through a so-called incentive auction. The rulemaking will allow the FCC to acquire spectrum now used by TV stations, with compensation, and auction it for broadband development.

The initiative is an outgrowth of the FCC's National Broadband Plan, which concluded that demand for wireless broadband spectrum would soon outstrip the supply and proposed the reallocation of up to 120 MHz of TV spectrum through an incentive auction and other means.

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski has championed the idea since his arrival at the agency in 2009. This is a new paradigm in spectrum policy that uses market forces with spectrum auctions to repurpose beachfront spectrum for licensed and unlicensed wireless broadband using. "We are in a global bandwidth race. It is similar to the space race in that success will unleash waves of innovation that will go a long way to determining who leads our global economy in the 21st century." "Because of innovative American companies and entrepreneurs – and smart government policies – the U.S. has regained global leadership in mobile over the past few years. Incentive auctions will help keep us there."

Authorized earlier this year by an act of Congress, the incentive auction would encourage and reward broadcasters who voluntarily offer their spectrum up for auction by allowing them to share in the proceeds. FCC officials said they hope to finalize the incentive auction plan sometime next year, and conduct the actual auction in 2014.

The incentive auction is really two auctions, perhaps simultaneous. In the reverse auction, the FCC will determine how much broadcasters are willing to give up and how much they want for it. In the forward auction, they will seek out the highest bidders for the spectrum on the open market.

Even though the incentive auction recognizes that they hold value in their spectrum, mainstream broadcasters who intend to hang on to their spectrum have been wary of the auction.

In readying the spectrum for auction, the FCC will have to "repack" the TV band – that is, reorganize the band to aggregate the returned spectrum. This may involve changing channel assignments and power levels.

The broadcasters fear the repacking will degrade their over-the-air coverage. At their request, Congress included language in the authorizing legislation saying that the FCC must protect broadcasters' current coverage. Broadcasters led by the NAB will make sure they do in the rulemaking.

## LIVE BROADCAST OF MFJ 40TH ANNIVERSARY

**MFJ Enterprises** will be celebrating their 40th anniversary October 5th and 6th (Friday and Saturday) in Starkville, Mississippi! For those that can attend in person, there will be door prizes (must be present to win), free factory tours (MFJ, Ameritron, Cushcraft, Hy-Gain, Mirage, Vectronics, and MFJ Metal Shop), free lunch, free tailgating, free forums/discussions, and FCC license exams.

For additional information regarding the MFJ 40th Anniversary Celebration go to <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/dayinpark.php>.

If you cannot attend in person, please join the live, online broadcast of MFJ 40th Anniversary Celebration events at <http://W5KUB.com> where the fun begins!

MFJ 40th Anniversary Celebration broadcast hours:

Thursday, October 4: 2000 UTC (3:00 PM CT)

Friday, October 5: 1300 - 21:30 UTC (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CT)

Saturday, October 6: 1300 UTC - 1900 UTC (8:00 AM - 2:00 PM CT)

Saturday, October 6: 2000 UTC (3:00 PM CT)

You could be the winner of an online MFJ prize (not to be confused with the MFJ door prizes) which will be awarded during the W5KUB broadcast. Of course, no purchase is necessary to win a prize. W5KUB is not affiliated with any products or companies and does not sell any products or services.

During the live broadcast, you will also have the opportunity to meet and chat with other amateur radio operators from all over the world.

Please join our group on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/w5kub/> to keep up with us year-round.

## SHORTS

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: GET SET FOR THE 2012 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST** -- Are you ready to respond to a local communications emergency? How about within your area, state or beyond? The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) -- an exercise that enables you and your local, District and Section leaders to test equipment, modes, operating skills and emergency deployment plans to see if everything is in place and ready for an actual emergency event -- is October 6-7. The SET is one of the premier events of the year that invites the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, the National Traffic System, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, SKYWARN, members of the ARRL Field Organization and other groups to work in concert together to practice and prepare. Read more [here](#). --ARRL Letter

**ATTENTION KIT BUILDERS -- THE ARRL WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!** -- The ARRL wants to hear from kit builders about simple, useful, educational and exciting kits. These kits should have a high probability for success and would serve as stepping stones for more advanced projects. We are looking all sorts of kits, but RF detector kits that work in the 380 MHz-2.5 GHz range are of special interest. The kits should also have a "Wow, I built this and *it works!*" factor. If you know of such a kit, please let us know by filling out a simple form [here](#) by October 31. --ARRL Letter

**LAST MAN STANDING PRODUCER CANCELS SPECIAL EVENT** - Due to concerns over possible violations of Section 97.113(a)(3), John Amodeo, NN6JA, has canceled the Last Man Standing Special Event Station planned for October 28. Amodeo had applied for and received a 1x1 call sign -- K6T -- to use for the event that would have taken place on the show's set. Last Man Standing stars Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT. "Although the intent of the Special Event Station was to celebrate and promote ham radio, it might be interpreted as promotion for the show and that cannot be permitted," explained Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA.

Point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/news/em-last-man-standing-em-producercancels-special-event> for the complete story. --ARRL Letter

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# SALE ITEMS FROM W9CGI

Item	Brand	Model	Type	Description	New Deals in RED ASKING\$	New\$	Asking\$
TNC	MFJ	1270	Packet	Set to 1200 baud for packet cluster use		\$130.00	\$25.00
TNC	MFJ	1270	Packet	Set to 9600 baud for packet satellite use		\$130.00	\$25.00
Monitor	Connect	SMR14A	LCD	Used less than one month with HP netbook - 14.1" screen diag		\$119.00	\$50.00
Tuner	MFJ	949E	Deluxe	Like new - rarely used - 1/2 coax sw + open wire - lite - ps - 300W		\$180.00	\$85.00
(2)PC's	Intel P4 #2	Floor	full tower	WIN-XP SP3 /KB/mouse/tons of ham other s/w- ask details		\$480.00	\$ 50ea
Antenna	YAESU	ATAS-25	Mob/Port	Loaded 160M to 450 MHZ portable (small/packs easy) Brand New		\$210.00	\$75.00
Antenna	TONNA	F9FT	2 Meter	Yagi for serious user - HI gain -DX antenna In two pcs for easy haul		\$229.00	\$40.00
				needs new hdwe to join -inst manual -			
Antenna	Cushcraft		V/U	Log Aperiodic - yagi - cover 6M-2M-450 and more		\$200.00	\$80.00
Antenna	Diamond	CR8900	10/6/2/450	49" vert mobile UHF mtg reqd - wrks grt - I only mobile on 2M FM now		\$99.95	\$50.00
Tower	Martin	4 FT	roof mnt	All Aluminum NEW roof mount tower - never erected - A1		>\$200	\$50.00
XCVR	UNIDEN	EXAI	TX	2.4 GHZ CORDLESS TX BASE UNIT		\$69.00	\$20.00
XCVR	RADIO SHK	HTX100	10 MTR	BOUGHT USED TO USE AS BCN - NEVER USED -----USED \$		\$50.00	\$30.00
PC Cam	PlayStn2	Eye Toy	USB	PC cams I bought qty for price - these are spares/excess NEW in pkg		\$35.00	\$15.00
ANSWER	GE	2-9868	TX	GE DIGITAL ANSWERING MACHINE		\$68.00	\$10.00
XCVR	Yaesu	FT-726	VHF/UHF	Excellent base station radio for Vhf-Uhf-Satellite work ( R&L)		\$750.00	
				With 6M / 2M / 432MHz / and satellite duplex modules - installed			
				2 Meter module - included at purchase with radio			
				6 Meter module - R&L Electronics - not for sale separately		\$175.00	
				432 MHz module - Delaware Elect. - not for sale separately		\$259.00	
				Sat Duplex module - R&L Electronics - not for sale separately		\$105.00	
				with all accessories and original Ops AND Service/Tech manual			
				and all original boxes etc where possible. Total =		\$1,289.00	\$475.00
<b>NEW DEAL</b>	Mirage	A1015G	6M	Solid state - 100Wout - all mode - 10W input - with rcv preamp		\$390.00	\$140.00
<b>NEW DEAL</b>	Mirage	B108	2M	Solid state - 80Wout - all mode - 10W input -with rcv preamp		\$289.00	\$140.00
<b>NEW DEAL</b>	Mirage	D1010	432 MHz	Solid state - 100Wout - all mode - 10W input - no rf rcv preamp		\$419.00	\$180.00
MONITOR	RCA	RP6198A	VHF/UHF	200chan Racetrack monitor - but fine on ham/commercial bands		\$180.00	\$50.00
VCR	GE	9-7100	TV	All works but is analog tuner. Work fine with convertors like TVs		\$180.00	\$10.00
VCR/DVD	SONY		TV	VCR 100% ok (analog) DVD minor problem - ask details		\$158.00	\$20.00
RCVR/CON	RCA	MSR130	COMP	Component tuner/control unit.. AM/FM/etc All work - needs AC cord		\$136.00	\$20.00
XCVR	YAESU	FT2800	2MTR	LIKE NEW FM WITH MIC/MANUAL/ACCESS AND HDWE		\$179.00	\$100.00
XCVR	YAESU	FT7400	450 MHZ	LIKE NEW FM WITH MIC/MANUAL/ACCESS AND HDWE		\$268.00	\$125.00
XCVR	GENAVE	GTX	6MTR	OLDER GOOD RADIO FOR BASE MONITOR OR SHOP		\$125.00	\$50.00
WELDER	VICTOR		ACET/O2	Acetylene welder setup / homemade cart / all tips (needs new hoses)		>\$400	\$50
				With NEW goggles(2) and helmet hood(1) - O2=1500 Act=MT			
Genny	Honda	EM3500SX		(4) VICTOR ( top commercial) gauges all work and glasses intact		\$2,400	\$1,200
				Like new unit with less than 100 hours. Gasoline generator -			
				120/240 Vac- outlets - low oil shutdown - metered - see online desc.			
				NOT available until AUG2012 when new GENERAC 18KW install			
				and auto switching are completed. Make bid by mail/email if serious			
				and I will contact you when ready.			
Mixer	Red Lion	Big Cat	concrete	Residential mixer bought at LOWES. Added tow hitch for lawn tractor			\$45
				NOT ROAD TOWABLE - Used but good shape and working			
Weights	MTA PRO	Pro	lifting	Weight lifting (free weight style) bench and bar/weights and leg lift			
				attach.& wts. SLIGHT damage (dog) chewed corner of seat.		\$175	\$35
				seat -see picture(s)- rest all like new			
<b>All sales final , but prices are negotiable</b>				<b>As always - you can contact me at <a href="mailto:W9CGI@ARRL.net">W9CGI@ARRL.net</a></b>			