



Legacy Amateur Radio Club

RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AFFILIATED CLUB

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

MARCH 2019

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE RCA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB WILL BE
TUESDAY, MARCH 12th, 6:30 PM AT
ORIENTAL INN, 1421 N ARLINGTON AVE., INDIANAPOLIS, IN

RCA ARC NEWS

March meeting: Squealers in Castleton is permanently closed. As a quick replacement we'll try the [Oriental Inn](#) at 1421 North Arlington. Suggestions for future meetings are welcome.

Summary of the February meeting – Thanks to all who attended the Feb. meeting. Jim, K9RU, again reminded us we need to be collecting stuff to sell at the Indy Hamfest in July. Field Day this year will be somewhat different with the RCA ARC and Hoosier DXers being the two major clubs. The IRC elected to their own thing. We still have repeater work to be done. Hopefully it can be scheduled now that the weather may warm up. Indiana Repeater Council dues will be paid. Greg, K0GAH, will be putting up his tower this spring and would't turn down some help.

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TEST SESSION

Time: Saturday, March 09, 2019, 12:00 pm (Walk-ins allowed)
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd
Indianapolis, IN 46254-2407
Contact: Jim Rinehart, k9ru@arrl.net, 317 721-1458

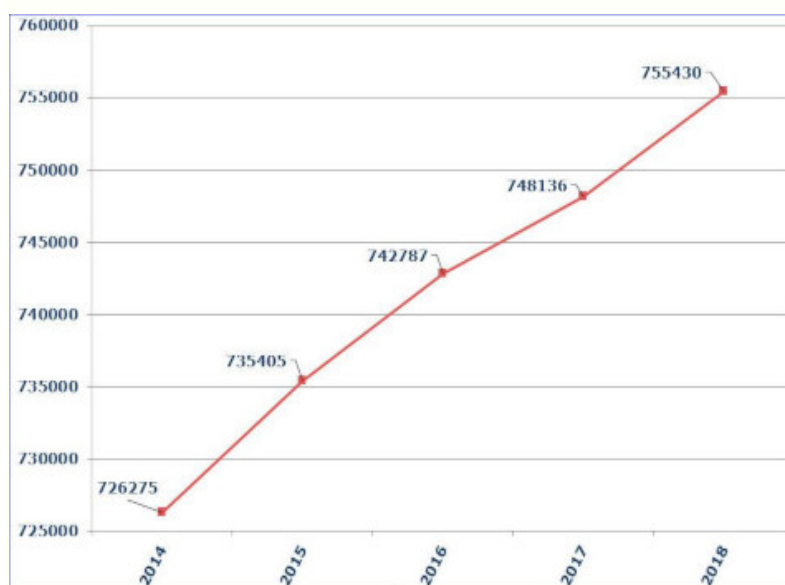
HAMFESTS, OPERATING EVENTS, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Mar 9 Wabash Valley Hamfest, Brazil, IN <http://w9uuu.org/>
Mar 10 North American Sprint RTTY <http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf>
Mar 30-31 CQ WPX Phone <https://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>
Apr 6 Columbus Indiana Hamfest, <http://carcnet.net/>
Apr 11 ARRL Frequency Measuring Test, 10pm EDT (4/12/2018, 0200 UTC)
Apr 14 ARRL Rookie Roundup
May 05 Indy Mini Marathon - N9FEB@comcast.net
May 05 Indiana QSO Party <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/>
May 17-19 Hamvention, Green County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH <http://www.hamvention.org/>
May 25 500 Festival Parade
June 22-23 Field Day
July 12-13 Indianapolis Hamfest, Marion County Fairgrounds, <http://www.indyhamfest.com/>

For More Contests Information: <http://www.contestcalendar.com/>
Opportunities for public service: <http://indyhams.org/>

US AMATEUR RADIO POPULATION GROWS SLIGHTLY IN 2018

The US Amateur Radio population once again grew by about 1%, based upon 2017 and 2018 year-end FCC database statistics provided by Joe Speroni, AH0A. The 755,430 total licenses represent nearly 7,300 more license holders than those that were in the database at the end of 2017. Nearly 51% of the Amateur Radio population in the US -- 384,145 -- hold a Technician license. Generals are second with 175,949, and Amateur Extras number 147,369. Advanced and Novice licensee populations continue to decline, with 39,607 Advanced and 8,360 Novices, as the FCC no longer issues Advanced or Novice licenses. A more significant statistic is 31,576 *new* FCC licenses last year, although that's 620 fewer than came aboard in 2017.



"New amateur licenses granted by FCC are down 2% over last year," noted ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, "but this is the fifth year in a row the total has been greater than 31,000. I predict that the number of new licensees will be more than 30,000 at the end of this year as well, and I'm optimistic this trend

will continue." Upgrades also are down slightly, compared to last year -- 9,456 in 2018 versus 9,576 in 2017, she added. "For the fifth year in a row, we have conducted more than 7,000 Amateur Radio exam sessions in a year -- an important milestone for the ARRL VEC," Somma recounted. "Our program continues to provide outstanding service to the ARRL, its members, and the entire Amateur Radio community."

ARRL VEC filed a total 30,393 license application forms last year, compared to 31,014 in 2017. That includes new, upgrade, modification, renewal, and club station filings. At 7,035 in 2018, the number of exam sessions conducted by ARRL VEC marginally trailed the 7,075 held in 2017. ARRL VEC served 34,493 exam applicants in 2018, compared to 35,352 in 2017. Exam elements administered by ARRL decreased from 47,152 last year to 45,817 this year, Somma said. Nearly 1,800 new Volunteer Examiners (VEs) have been added to the ARRL VEC program. --ARRL

RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH, K4ZDH, TO OVERSEE VOLUNTEER MONITORS DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, will oversee the development and implementation phases of ARRL's new Volunteer Monitors (VM) program, which will replace the Official Observers (OO) program. Hollingsworth, who once handled Amateur Radio enforcement for the FCC, has stepped down as ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest. The development phase of the program is already under way.

"I am grateful for the Atlantic Division ARRL members supporting me, but I think I can better serve the Atlantic Division and all ARRL divisions by working in the Volunteer Monitors program," Hollingsworth said in his resignation letter. A new Atlantic Division Vice Director will be appointed.

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said that Hollingsworth was the ideal person to lead ARRL's efforts in the development and implementation of this joint program with the FCC.

"I support Riley's decision to concentrate his efforts on this very valuable project on behalf of the ARRL," Roderick said.

Approved by the ARRL Board of Directors last July, the Volunteer Monitors will work in cooperation with the FCC. Volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL will monitor the amateur bands for possible instances of misconduct or to recognize exemplary on-air operation. Cases of flagrant violations or noncompliance will be directed to the FCC for action, in accordance with FCC guidelines. The program, which aims to re-energize Amateur Radio enforcement efforts, was proposed by the FCC following the closure of several FCC regional offices and reductions in field staff.

Hollingsworth has identified three phases to the program -- development, solicitation and training, and implementation. The development phase will include drafting a mission statement, clearly defining ARRL's and the FCC's requirements and needs as part of the program, drafting a Volunteer Manager job description, and developing a training manual for volunteers.

The solicitation and training phase will involve identifying the geographical locations where volunteer monitors will be most needed, soliciting applications, and screening applicants. Current Official Observers will be invited to apply for appointment as Volunteer Monitors (VMs). The ARRL Board has expressed its appreciation to the OOs for their dedicated volunteer service over the years.

Implementation will involve having the volunteers provide field reports, and ARRL staff offering guidance to volunteers to ensure that the information gathered meets FCC requirements. Continuing education will be provided to the volunteers as part of the program.

Hollingsworth has committed to ensure training adequacy for new VMs, to review the quality and utility of Volunteer Monitor submissions to the FCC for enforcement action, and to advocate for rapid disposition of cases appropriately submitted to the FCC.

ARRL officials estimate that it will take 9 - 12 months before the first Volunteer Monitors begin filing reports. --ARRL Letter

WWV CENTENNIAL SPECIAL EVENT WILL USE WW0WWV

With its funding secure for another year, WWV, the world's oldest continuously operating radio station, will have extra reason to celebrate its centennial this fall. The National Institute of Standards and Technology ([NIST](#)) and the Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club ([NCARC](#))

have teamed up to organize 100th anniversary events. A memorandum of understanding is pending. The [WWV Committee](#) has announced that the call sign WW0WWV was granted on February 23 to the WWV Amateur Radio Club for use during the Amateur Radio special event, planned to run September 28 - October 2, with operators on the air around the clock. NCARC predicts the effort will require "hundreds" of volunteer operators.

"The 100th anniversary is an occasion to celebrate radio and our understanding of the electromagnetic spectrum, and an opportunity to help people everywhere appreciate what radio does in their everyday lives," said Dave Swartz, WODAS, who has been spearheading the on-the-air event.

The WWV Committee met on February 22, with representatives of NCARC and NIST on hand, to further firm up plans for the centennial celebratory events. Although the US government cannot fund any Amateur Radio special event expenses, club members will be allowed to use a 15-acre parcel on WWV property, Swartz has explained. The operating site lies outside the security fence.

For its part, NIST will focus on plans for an October 1 recognition ceremony and an open house at the radio station north of Fort Collins. --ARRL Letter

ARRL BOARD GIVES THE GO-AHEAD TO LIFELONG LEARNING INITIATIVE

ARRL is undertaking a new initiative to provide online educational opportunities to a broad range of radio amateurs. The Lifelong Learning Initiative will seek to provide a series of learning tracks that will serve the needs of the various interest groups within the Amateur Radio community.

While designed for everyone with an interest in learning more about Amateur Radio, the Lifelong Learning Initiative will initially focus on creating online learning opportunities for new and newer hams, a segment of the Amateur Radio community desperately searching for educational and instructional resources.

The ARRL Board of Directors set the Lifelong Learning Initiative in motion, endorsing and funding the program and approving the hiring of advertising agency Mintz + Hoke to work with ARRL Lifelong Learning Manager Kris Bickell, K1BIC, and other ARRL staffers in building this learning environment. Mintz + Hoke will conduct the research necessary to identify the different educational needs within the broader Amateur Radio community.

"Mintz + Hoke is a really strong partner in this project," Bickell said, adding that the firm has developed a deep understanding of the Amateur Radio community as part of the research phase of this endeavor.

Bickell noted that youth education will be a critical component of this Learning Initiative, but he also believes that overall opportunities in this area are huge, as many individuals are looking to expand their knowledge of Amateur Radio.

Where appropriate, Bickell said, the content of these learning tracks within the initiative will build upon much of the knowledge base that already exists within ARRL, such as the material in *QST* and *QEX* magazines, as well as other ARRL publications and manuals. Some new content will be created as well, to ensure that the information being provided stays fresh and dynamic.

In addition to providing instruction, the Learning Initiative will offer resources that allow individuals to delve further into a subject, rather than them relying solely on ARRL content.

"We are building a new learning environment," Bickell said. "It will take a lot of work to put this

all together, but we believe that this initiative will firmly establish ARRL as an educational leader in Amateur Radio." He expects the online Lifelong Learning platform to launch in the fall of 2019. Read [more](#). --ARRL Letter

OVER-THE-HORIZON RADARS RAISING THE IRE OF EUROPEAN MONITORING SYSTEMS

The January issue of the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System (IARUMS) [newsletter](#) reports the Russian "Sunflower" coastal radar, located east of Vladivostok, is being heard at nights on 3,716 kHz and 6,860 - 7,005 kHz, as well as on several 60-meter frequencies. A Chinese wideband over-the-horizon (OTH) radar also appeared on 7,000 kHz in early January.

"Once again we have problems with short-wave radars," said the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) Monitoring System. DARC is Germany's IARU member-society. "The Russian coastal radar 'Sunflower' transmits on almost every evening at 5,310 - 5,410 kHz. As a result, our new mini-band is useless." DARC was referring to the narrow worldwide allocation of 5,351.5 - 5,366.5 kHz to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis by World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15). It said the interference appears as a deep hum. The Sunflower radar employs Frequency Modulation on Pulse (FMOP) at 43 sweeps per second to detect aircraft and, over water, vessels.

DARC continued, "The system is so successful that the Chinese operate several 'sunflowers' on the east coast. Chinese OTHs work almost daily in the 20-meter band. In the mornings, we can often receive them with high field strengths." DARC said the Chinese OTHs cause worse interference than the Russian radars.

DARC mentioned other OTH radars operating on 40 meters: "At the moment we have extreme problems with the 'Container' radar from Russia." IARUMS has often reported problems from this radar.

In December, IARUMS reported an OTH radar active on 21,170 kHz from the Sovereign Base areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia, a British Overseas Territory on the island of Cyprus.

While 60 meters and 80/75 meters are shared bands, the 7,000 - 7,200 kHz segment of 40 meters is allocated exclusively to the Amateur Radio Service worldwide. Some domestic Amateur Radio HF allocations outside Region 2 (the Americas), such as 7,200 to 7,300 kHz, are either shared with other services or not available to radio amateurs. On HF allocations such as 30 and 60 meters, Amateur Radio is secondary to other users. The 20-, 17-, 15-, 12-, and 10-meter bands are exclusively available to the Amateur Radio Service worldwide. --ARRL Letter

FCC INVITES COMMENTS ON AMATEUR RADIO-RELATED PETITION FOR RULE MAKING

The FCC has invited public comments on a *Petition for Rule Making* ([RM-11826](#)) from an Ohio radio amateur seeking to amend the Part 97 station identification rules to better accommodate and simplify station identification during an emergency net, drill, or activation. ARRL member Robert A. Dukish, KK8DX, filed the petition in December, and the FCC put it on public notice this week. Dukish seeks a change to Section 97.119(a) of the rules, which requires an amateur station to transmit its "assigned call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication."

He noted that during emergency networks, requiring participating stations -- often portable -- to use their assigned call signs during each transmission could prove "burdensome and can hinder the flow of emergency traffic on the channel."

Specifically, he is suggesting that a simple approach would be to permit the net control station or other designated participant to announce from a single point the call signs of every station taking part in the net or exercise, when tactical call signs often are in use, at 10-minute intervals, using automatic CW identification.

Dukish suggested amending Section 97.119(a) to add, "except during a local emergency network activation or drill," and providing that in such situations, a net control or designations station would be "authorized to announce all participating stations' assigned call signs at no more than 10-minute intervals while the net is in progress." The amendment would provide that participating stations "be within a 50-mile distance of the identifying station, and each individual station must self-identify by transmitting its assigned call sign at least once per hour." CW transmission could be no faster than 25 WPM if sent automatically to satisfy the suggested amendment.

Interested parties may comment via the FCC Electronic Comment Filing Service ([ECFS](#)).
--ARRL

US NAVY EXPLORES AMATEUR RADIO AS A TRAINING ADJUNCT

The US Navy's Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division ([NAWCWD](#)) has adopted Amateur Radio training as a possible new approach to basic RF and electronics instruction. More than 20 NAWCWD employees took part in a week-long class in Point Mugu, California, in December. The class, which culminated in an examination session for the Technician licensed, offered NAWCWD employees a novel approach to teaching radio propagation, said Brian Hill, KF4CAM, the lead for electromagnetic maneuver warfare experimentation in the NAWCWD Avionics, Sensors and E*Warfare Department. Hill, who got his license while he was still in high school, is also the department's "innovation ambassador."

"I looked at the breakdown of current new hires and saw that many had degrees in computer science and thought that their classwork might not have covered things like RF propagation," Hill said. Rather than have employees sit through hours of *PowerPoint* briefings, Hill thought that a licensing course might be a more dynamic, hands-on approach to convey the basics -- and cover areas such as directional antennas, signal propagation, and modulation that are necessary for their work.

Initially, Hill had 10 class slots funded, but then Target Design Engineering Branch Head Ian Mann, KI6YVO, got wind of the class, saw its potential, and helped get funding to expand participation. Mann, a General-class licensee and a ham for nearly 10 years, said he's been able to apply knowledge learned in the class to his NAWCWD work.

Target Systems Division Head Milton Gabaldon, also saw merit in the approach. He sat in on the classes, took the exam, and he's now KM6YPA. For him, it's about connecting the dots.

"It's about introducing people to electronics, to start understanding what RF is all about ...so when we talk about it in the test and evaluation world, [students] know what we're talking about," Gabaldon said. "They get a better view than 'I just do software.' Now they see 'My software controls this piece, which sends out RF jamming signals that protect the warfighter.' That's the most important takeaway."

In all, 23 employees who took the Technician exam passed, and several also successfully tested at for General and Amateur Extra licenses. Hill hopes to offer more hands-on classes in

the future, and he's planning a Fox Hunt for the near future, as additional hands-on training. -- Thanks to NAWCWD and Public Affairs Officer Kimberly Brown; some information from [C4ISRNET](#)

VE7DXW'S "RF SEISMOGRAPH" MAY BE REAL SEISMOGRAPH

Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW, in British Columbia, Canada, is exploring the possibility that "RF signatures" detected by the [RF Seismograph](#) propagation tool could also be indicating earthquakes, and may even be able to predict them shortly before they occur. A real-time HF [propagation-monitoring tool](#) developed by Schwarz and the [MDSR team](#), the RF Seismograph shows both band noise and activity or band activity alone on six HF bands. It's a project of the North Shore Amateur Radio Club ([NSARC](#)).

"We had been doing the solar eclipse experiment, and we developed the RF Seismograph software to look for changes in propagation during the eclipse," Schwarz explained. "After the eclipse, we decided to leave the RF Seismograph running, and we have now collected 4 years of data."

The system uses an omnidirectional multiband antenna to monitor JT-65 frequencies (± 10 kHz) on 80, 40, 30, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Recorders monitor the background noise and display the result in six color-coded, long-duration graphs displaying 6 hours of scans. When signals are present on a band, its graph trace starts to resemble a series of vertical bars.

Most recently, the RF Seismograph recorded the magnitude 7.5 earthquake in Ecuador on February 22. Schwarz recounted that noise on 15 meters began to be visible about 1 hour before the quake; then, 2 hours after the quake released, 15 meters started to recover. The US Geological Survey said the quake was about 82 miles below ground. It did not affect 80 meters. Schwarz speculated that the quake was easy to see on the RF Seismograph because 15 meters typically is not open during hours of darkness -- especially when the solar flux is only 70.

Following a magnitude 5.0 earthquake off the coast of Vancouver Island, his RF Seismograph picked up changes. Canada's government-run [Earthquakes Canada](#) was able to provide Schwarz with a list of magnitude 6.0 or greater events since the RF Seismograph went into operation, and the two teams have been collaborating to find a correlation between HF propagation anomalies and earthquakes. With the measurements, Schwarz has been attempting find a correlation between the list of past geological events and what his RF Seismograph may have sensed on those occasions.

"The earthquakes show up as RF noise because of the electric field lines, now scientifically confirmed to change the way the ionosphere reflects RF," Schwarz said. He cited an article in the October 2018 edition of *Scientific American*. (Erik Vance, "[Earthquakes in the sky](#)," *Scientific American*, October 2018, p. 44).

Schwarz said 171 earthquakes -- all magnitude 6.0 events or greater -- were studied, and only 15 of them had no RF noise associated with them. In 26 cases, the time of the disturbance detected by the RF Seismograph failed to match the USGS-reported time of the quake. Schwarz said that in 72% of the earthquake studies, the RF Seismograph was able to detect an increase in noise on 80 meters, typically before and after the event.

"More analysis is needed," Schwarz has concluded. Read [more](#). --ARRL Letter

9TH CALL AREA QSL BUREAU CHANGES LEADERSHIP

John Meyers, K9QVB has decided to retire from the management of the 9th Call Area QSL Bureau after over 45 years as an active card dispatcher. All the users of the 9th Call Area QSL Bureau owe John a great debt of gratitude for his two decades of service.

Erik Anderson, K9EU, has agreed to assume the role of Manager for the 9th Call Area QSL Bureau. Erik is a long time volunteer with the Bureau as well as a noted and accomplished DX'er and Contester.

Although K9QVB is stepping down as Manager of the Bureau, John does plan to continue to remain active as a sorter and a letter dispatcher.

The 9th Call Area Incoming QSL Bureau is operated by the Northern Illinois DX Association – NIDXA. The staff of volunteers includes twenty-six letter dispatchers and card sorters. This Bureau handles over 45,000 DX QSL cards each month.

Due to this change, effective immediately, all 9th Call Area QSL Bureau correspondence should be sent to: NIDXA, PO Box 125, Naperville, Illinois 60566

You can find more information about the 9th Call Area QSL Bureau with instructions of how to establish an account of envelopes and postage at <http://qsl.nidxa.org> -- Kermit W9XA

SOME STORMY SEAS FOR COMPETITIVE SAILORS USING HF AMATEUR RADIO

The sorts of rules regulating the degree of outside assistance allowed in ham radio contesting also apply in other endeavors. An Estonian skipper was recently penalized in the Golden Globe Race (**GGR**) after seeking “weather routing” — the best route according to wind and weather conditions — via ham radio. The apparent third-place skipper Uku Randmaa, ES1UKU, **escaped disqualification** from the round-the-world race, however, getting a 72-hour penalty instead. As of March 4, he had 630 miles to go. He'll serve most of his time penalty after he finishes the race.

A recording of the conversation was provided to race headquarters on February 19. In it, Randmaa asks, “I'm heading 90°. Can I be sure that I can take the wind, if I'm sailing east?” The other station, VP8LP, advises him to move northwest and later tells Randmaa, “The more north you go, the quicker you get out of the wind hole.”

Race rules say, “Entrants are free to speak to media, family, friends, and sponsors by radio at any time during the event, but must not be given any form of weather routing. Competitors may communicate freely (by radio or by hailing) with other competitors, or other mariners on vessels at sea, requesting or giving any verbal information/advice whatsoever, even if this is considered weather routing.”

The approximately 30,000-mile GGR solo circumnavigation starts and ends in Les Sables-d'Olonne, France. It has four rendezvous gates along the way.

“This is a retro race with skippers restricted to using a sextant, paper charts, and wind-up chronometers, just as Sir Robin Knox-Johnston used in the first *Sunday Times* Golden Globe Race 50 years ago,” Race Chairman Don McIntyre explained to *My Sailing* magazine. Skippers can only communicate by marine and/or amateur SSB HF radios and on an Amateur Radio net.

Meanwhile, according to a January **report**, some GGR sailors have been operating on Amateur Radio frequencies using phony call signs and have been asked to stop operating.

One of them, second-place skipper Mark Slats — who was reported to have been using PI3MS — said on January 15 he was considering getting out of competitive sailing, citing safety concerns, after being banned from the ham radio net for being unlicensed.

The GGR 2018 – 2019 winner, Jean Luc Van Den Heede, who finished on January 29, had been using J6LJV, and that call sign appears under his name on QRZ.com, although authorities in St. Lucia are reported to have said they have no record of his license.

A January 15 announcement on the Golden Globe Race Facebook page said, “GGR requires all entrants to have a licensed marine HF SSB radio... and the entrant to have a Marine Radio Operator’s license only. GGR does monitor all strong weather with winds over 40 knots, and, if appropriate, provides both forecasting and routing information to assist the entrant to sail safely.”

TECHNICAL PAPER RAISES VISIBILITY OF WIRELESS POWER TRANSMISSION INTERFERENCE POTENTIAL

A [technical paper](#) drafted by International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 ([IARU-R1](#)) President Don Beattie, G3BJ, is the latest official step to increase the visibility of wireless power transmission (WPT) systems’ interference threat to Amateur Radio. Submitted to the IARU-R1 Interim Meeting, set for April 27 – 28 in Vienna, the paper will update relevant committees on the topic. Beattie’s paper offers an impact analysis of WPT-electric vehicle (WPT-EV) systems on Amateur Radio communications, with a primary focus on WPT systems operating in the 79 – 90 kHz range.

“IARU engaged with discussions in [CEPT](#) [the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations] and [ITU](#) [the International Telecommunications Union] on WPT in 2017,” Beattie’s 20-page discussion notes.

Beattie’s paper warns of “a widespread and serious impact on radio communications operating in the vicinity” of WPT systems if spurious emissions measured at a distance of 10 meters are at current CEPT [Recommendation 74-01E](#) and ITU Radio communication Sector [Recommendation SM.329-12](#) limits, “given the planned density of WPT-Electric Vehicle Systems.” Both the CEPT and ITU recommendations address “unwanted emissions in the spurious domain.”

An IARU study of WPT-EV and its potential impact on radiocommunications services already has been submitted to the relevant ITU and CEPT study committees. “In CEPT, the IARU input has been carried forward in the recently published [ECC Report 289](#),” Beattie said in his paper. Broadcasters, land mobile services, and others have also expressed concern about spurious WPT-EV emissions. “Report 289 sets out the protection requirements for these radio services, but it stops short of proposing any regulatory action,” Beattie’s paper points out. “This, therefore, is the next challenge — to seek to bridge the divide between WPT manufacturers and the radio communications services.”

Beattie’s paper said further work remains regarding generic WPT systems such as cell phone charging, power tools, and household appliances. “As a part of this, manufacturers have offered projections on the installed density of these devices, which allows modeling of the minimum interference field strength to be expected in an urban/suburban environment populated with WPT devices at the projected density,” Beattie noted in his paper. “This then allows IARU to make further input modeling these emissions.”

IARU provided the same input to ITU, but, Beattie's paper says, ITU plans to include it in a separate report for discussion at a later meeting.

SHORTS

Carole Perry, WB2MGP, is First Recipient of Award Named in Her Honor - ARRL congratulates Amateur Radio educator Carole Perry, WB2MGP, for being the first recipient of the newly established Carole Perry Educator of the Year Award, presented on February 9 by Orlando HamCation®. The award, to be given annually in Perry's name, recognizes outstanding dedication in educating and advancing today's youth about Amateur Radio.

A fellow and director of the Radio Club of America (RCA), Perry is a past Dayton Hamvention® Amateur of the Year and a recipient of the ARRL Instructor of the Year Award. She sits on the RCA Scholarship Committee and chairs the RCA Youth Activities Committee, which she established in 2007.

Perry has moderated the Hamvention Youth Forum for 31 years. The 2019 Orlando HamCation was the ARRL Southeastern Division Convention

Flex Radio Systems demonstrated their new MultiFlex software at the Orlando Hamcation. Matt Youngblood discusses various operating scenarios in which the new feature could be used, which include multi-operator one-radio (MO1R) contesting.

Technical papers are solicited for presentation at the ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC) this fall. The DCC will be held September 20 - 22 at the Marriott Detroit Metro Airport Hotel. Papers will also be published in the *Conference Proceedings*. Authors do not need to attend the conference to have their papers included in the *Proceedings*. The submission deadline is August 5. [Submit](#) papers via email or postal mail to Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111. Papers will be published exactly as submitted, and authors will retain all rights.

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) packet system is back on the air with new equipment. The replacement gear arrived last November and had been awaiting unpacking and installation. ARISS hardware team members on the ground were able to locate a functional duplicate of the old ISS packet TNC module that had been in operation for 17 years and had become intermittent. Crew members installed the new module on February 2; the RF gear remains the same. The ISS packet system, located in the ISS *Columbus* module, went down in July 2017, but it unexpectedly came back to life the following summer. The packet system operates on 145.825 MHz.

ARISS is an official back-up system for astronauts to talk with Mission Control in the unlikely failure of the station's primary communication systems. In 2017, hams relayed nearly 89,000 packet messages via the ISS; response to its recent return has been enthusiastic, ARISS said. [Contribute](#) to the all-new radio system set to launch this year via the ARISS website. For more information, contact ARISS-International Chair [Frank Bauer, KA3HDO](#), or ARISS ARRL Delegate [Rosalie White, K1STO](#). -- *Thanks to ARISS*

W6RO aboard the Queen Mary to Celebrate 40th Anniversary in April - The 50-member volunteer crew of the *Queen Mary* [W6RO](#) Nate Brightman Wireless Room will mount a month-long special event in April to mark the 40th anniversary of the station's opening on the museum ship in Long Beach, California. Launched April 22, W6RO was the first of what has grown to more than 100 Amateur Radio stations based on museum ships around the world. Crew

members work tirelessly to keep W6RO on the air and make as many contacts as possible during April. Station manager David Akins, N6HHR, has set a goal of 1,000 logged contacts during the 30-day event. A commemorative QSL card [will be available](#) with an SASE. Founded by Nate Brightman, K6OSC (SK), W6RO is the club station of the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach.

IARU Region 1 Youth Contesting Program Wants to Enlist More "Big-Gun" Stations - International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 ([IARU-R1](#)) Youth Working Group Chair Lisa Leenders, PA2LS, said young operators (age 26 or younger) in Region 1 (Europe and Africa) have been invited to participate in the Youngsters on the Air ([YOTA](#)) Youth Contesting Program ([YCP](#)). "Youth members from IARU Region 1 member-societies are invited to take part in a contest from so called 'Top Gun' stations," she said. "These young hams will learn how to operate the contest station, improve their contest skills, and aim for the best results together as a team." Leenders said long-time YCP partners 9A1A, ES9C, and 4O3A are already on the schedule of host stations, and additional stations are welcome. LX7I will join the roster during the ARRL International DX Contest (SSB), and LZ9W, OZ5E, and DP9A will be available for other contests later this year. [More information](#) and an application form is available on the YOTA website.

Hundreds Report Hearing SAQ Alexanderson Alternator on Christmas Eve - Alexanderson Alternator transmissions from SAQ in Sweden on Christmas Eve 2018 drew more than [340 listener reports](#) from 28 countries, including seven reports from the US. "Many visitors had come to the transmission hall to enjoy coffee, cake, and Swedish ginger snaps as they were watching the activities with starting and running the old radio transmitter SAQ," the report from Sweden said. "The 'old lady' was in a very good mood, and we had a flawless startup and transmission. The conditions were very good with the dry and cold weather, and the signal was strong." The nearly century-old electromechanical Alexanderson Alternator at SAQ transmits on CW at 17.2 kHz on special occasions. Amateur Radio station SK6SAQ was also active on Christmas Eve from the SAQ site in Grimeton, Sweden.

The [Elgato Stream Deck](#) is a programmable multi-button USB peripheral that might be useful for some station automation tasks. The concept seems simple enough - a box that sits on your desk, with a bunch of buttons on it. The buttons have small LCD screens built in to each one, so can display graphics or text. They're programmable with a [Software Development Kit](#), so they can be labeled however you like. Button press behavior is programmable, too. [SM0MDG tweeted about testing it to switch receive antennas](#), and [wrote a blog article on how the setup works](#).

THANKS FOR READING

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