

The Oscillator

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Upcoming Meetings

Friday, November 18, 2011 8 PM WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

Location: The Bunker. The meeting will include the presentation of a slate of Officers for 2012 and our annual White Elephant Sale.

Tri-Town's annual White Elephant Sale is scheduled for Friday, November 18, 2011 at The Bunker. Why not get a jump on cleaning the shack for the up coming holidays and operating sessions and turn those no longer needed goodies in to cash? This will be a fundraiser for the club. A commission of 10% with a maximum of 10 dollars per sale will go to the club. All estate sale items will be commission free. There is still some club sale items from last year, please make an offer. If you have something that you would just like to show off to the club, please bring it tell us all about it.

Friday, December 16, 2011 8 PM

Every fall the club must conduct nominations and election of officers for the coming year. As always, candidates for the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and one Board member are needed. This year the Board position that is open is the one reserved for candidates who have not previously been a club officer. Nominations are now open and will remain open until the December 16, 2011 election is held. Nomination can be made through this year's Nomination Committee Chairman, Bill Mullen AB9RM or from the floor at a meeting. Those placed in nomination must confirm that they would be willing to serve if elected. This procedure is very important, as those elected will over see the activities of the club in the coming year. There will be challenges to face and decisions to be made to keep the club operating as it has for the past 80 years.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tri-Town annual Christmas Party will be held Friday, December 16, 2011, 8 PM at The Bunker. There will be a short business meeting for the purpose of having an election of officers for 2012. Food and refreshments will be provides. Cost for the party will be \$5 per person. Price will include a raffle ticket. Please be sure to attend to cast your vote and have fun at the party.

FROM THE BOARD ROOM

By Todd KA9IUC

I find it amazing that we are almost at the end of another year. It has been a busy year with lots of activities yet to come within the club and in our personal lives. Please attend the November and December club meetings. Nomination and election of officers is important. The while elephant sale and Christmas party are great fun. I would like to thank those who come out for The Bunker open house. It was good time of working on projects and operating. Too bad no guests from the class showed up. Thanks to Jay, AA9KH for his work on organizing the file drawers. Thanks also to Mike, WA9ZPM and Peter, KE9YX for the installation of a new mike for the 2-meter radio. It should work great along with the direct computer connection for playing Newslines for the Wednesday night 2 meter net. Please the officers and board members know what activities the club can be involved in, topics for programs, raffle prizes, what contests to operate and what ever else in on your mind. This club belongs to the membership and we should all work towards another great year.

Officers, Board Members, & Committee Heads for 2011:

Tom Niemeyer AB9LA	President	708.672-5844	tom1485@sbcglobal.net
Matt Schumann N9OTL	Vice President	708.423.7066	mattschuman@yahoo.com
Jim Everand WD9GXU	Secretary	708.748.6798	None @ No I' dont have one
Trish Jaggard N9WDG	Treasurer	708.957.1973	the_jaggards@sbcglobal.net
Todd Schumann KA9IUC	Chairman of Board	708.423.7066	tschum3063@aol.com
Tom Gunderson W9SRV	Webmaster, W9VT	815.466-0245	webmaster@w9vt.org
Matt Schumann N9OTL	Raffle Chairman	708.423.7066	mattschuman@yahoo.com
Bruce Haffner WD9GHK	W9VT Trustee, Dir.	708.614.6134	WD9GHK@comcast.net
Brian J. Bedoe WD9HSY Oscillator Editor, Dir.	Repeater Trustee,	815.469.1383	Bbedoe@aol.com

Members of the Tri-Town Radio Club Inc. publish the Oscillator 6 times a year. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Officers or members of the Tri-Town RAC, but of the contributors. All articles may be reprinted as long as full credit is given. Other publications are asked to reciprocate their newsletter. Some Articles printed here are from AMSAT, ARRL Letter, TAPR, World Radio, and Other Amateur Radio Publications.

Club Meetings & Nets

Club meetings are the **3rd Friday** of each month at the **Village of Hazel Crest Village Hall**, 170th and Holmes. All are welcome and refreshments will serve. Don't forget to bring a Friend.

Official Club 2 Mtr hangouts:

146.49 Simplex, & The Club's Repeater 146.805 WD9HSY/R

Unofficial Club Hang Outs:

442.375 Homewood, 441.300 Grant Park WA9WLN/R, "Waldofar"
443.325 Frankfort WD9HSY/R & 147.165 Kankakee Co. WD9HSY/R
All UHF's use a 114.8 PL All VHF's use a 107.2 PL

Club Nets

2 Mtr FM 49'ers Net - Wed, 8:00 PM Local, 146.490.

10 Mtr SSB Net - Thursdays, 8:00 PM Local, 28.490.

2 Mtr FM Weather Net - Sundays, 8:00 PM local, on **The Club's Repeater** 146.805 -600kc 107.2 PL

Upcoming Local / Major Hamfests

11/19/2011 Fort Wayne, IN Hamfest

01/22/2012 Mid-Winter Hamfest Sponsor: Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs
Location: St. Charles, IL Website: <http://www.w9ccu.org>

03/04/2012 Sterling-Rock Falls ARS Hamfest
Location: Sterling, IL Website: <http://www.w9mep.org>

Looking for public service frequencies for your scanner or two-meter rig? Give radioreference.com and carma.com a try.

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

Amateurs Assist with Communications in Rare October Nor'easter

From the ARRL 11/02/2011

A rare October nor'easter brought historic snowfall and widespread damage and power outages from the Mid-Atlantic into the Northeast United States. Up and down the Atlantic seaboard, radio amateurs provided various critical services to the National Weather Service through the SKYWARN weather spotter program, and provided communications support to local, state and federal emergency management and non-governmental organizations.

"Amateur Radio operations at the National Weather Service office in Taunton, Massachusetts were active on [WX1BOX](#), the office's Amateur Radio station," Rob Macedo, KD1CY, told the ARRL. Macedo serves as the Eastern Massachusetts ARES® Section Emergency Coordinator and SKYWARN Coordinator for the NWS Taunton office. "Hams in Taunton were active for 21 hours supporting meteorological and damage data that was shared not only with the NWS, but also with the media and local, state and federal emergency management. This brought critical situational awareness and disaster intelligence information in near-real time with many agencies."

In the ARRL Connecticut Section, Section leaders were conducting their Simulated Emergency Test (SET) when the storm hit. "Because of the storm, we truncated the SET operational period and braced for the unseasonable October snow," explained ARRL Connecticut Section Emergency Coordinator Wayne Gronlund, N1CLV. "The planned hurricane/earthquake SET scenario was quickly displaced by a *real* nor'easter! SKYWARN operators across the Section were activated on Saturday afternoon, and nets went late into the evening gathering snow, rain and wind data for the National Weather Service."

Macedo explained that many SKYWARN nets throughout the Connecticut, Western and Eastern Massachusetts and New Hampshire ARRL Sections activated every few hours to relay meteorological and damage reports: "We received several hundred reports of snowfall measurements, wind measurements and damage reports. Widespread snowfall of 6-12 inches fell over portions of Northern Connecticut, Western, Central and Northeast Massachusetts. In Southeast New Hampshire, they saw with snow amounts of 1-2 feet, with isolated snowfall amounts up to 32 inches in the mountainous parts of these areas. The snowfall -- coupled with foliage still on the trees -- brought the recipe for significant damage and widespread power loss."

SKYWARN weather spotters reported that coastal flooding also affected some shore roads, with wind gusts reported as high as 69 miles per hour over Cape Cod and the Islands. The NWS Taunton Forecast Office issued [Public Information Statements](#) and [Local Storm Reports](#) detailing snowfall, wind measurement and damage reports.

The Emergency Operations Center in the Town of Sandwich was active under call sign W1SEM during the overnight hours, monitoring coastal shore road flooding and high winds in their region. The town experienced shore road flooding as well as tree damage in their community. Cape Cod ARES® District Emergency Coordinator Frank O'Laughlin, WQ1O, provided reports into WX1BOX directly and through the Town of Acushnet's Emergency Operations Center and through WA1EMA, the ARES® sub-regional command center.

At the end of the SKYWARN reporting phase of the operation, Eastern Massachusetts Assistant ARES® Section Emergency Coordinator and Assistant SKYWARN Coordinator for NWS Taunton, Carl Aveni, N1FY, who assisted Macedo with operations at Taunton, thanked all the Amateur Radio SKYWARN operators and non-amateur spotters for their support: "There was not a moment during the 21 hours of formal operations that we did not receive critical information from you folks. That information was of immeasurable value to all of our partners (such as the National Weather Service, the media, and local, state and federal emergency management, and all of our non-governmental organizations like the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, hospitals and the Medical Reserve Corps). It is gratifying to see how well the training we go through pays off. Thank you so much for the robust support!"

ARRL RELEASES FIELD DAY 2011 RESULTS

The ARRL has published the results of Field Day 2011 in the December 2011 issue of QST magazine. This year, **Tri-Town posted 3466 points and placed eighth out of nineteen entries in class 4F**. Congratulations to all who participated. General 2011 Field Day statistics include 2,666 total entries, 39,287 participants, 463 GOTA stations and 1,434,363 QSOs.

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

FCC Terminates Proceedings Affecting the Amateur Radio Service

From the ARRL 11/02/2011

The FCC issued an [Order](#) on November 1 that terminated hundreds of proceedings, including six proceedings that members of the public, including the ARRL, had asked not to be terminated. Two of these six proceedings involved the Amateur Radio Service. This follows a June 2011 [Public Notice](#) that sought comments on whether or not it should terminate [approximately 800 docketed proceedings](#).

On July 20, 2011, the [ARRL filed comments with the FCC](#) on this matter, explaining that it had no objection to the termination of the proceedings in the *Public Notice*, save for one item: The ARRL's *Petition for Rulemaking (RM-10165) Amendment of Parts 2 and 97 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the 2300-2305 MHz Band*. In this *Petition*, the ARRL requested that the FCC change the Amateur Radio Service's allocation in that band from Secondary to Primary. This *Petition* was one of the six items to be terminated.

RM-10165

The ARRL's *Petition* was filed May 7, 2001 and on July 2, 2001, it was placed on *Public Notice*. In October 2002, the Office of Engineering and Technology ([OET](#)) issued an *Order* dismissing this and two other petitions pertaining to the 2300-2305 MHz band. The ARRL noted in its comments July 2011 that "the *Order* did not finally resolve the issue of the allocation status of the Amateur Service in the 2300-2305 MHz band, or the ARRL's request for a Primary allocation. Rather, the Commission merely *postponed* a decision with respect to the allocation status of that band until some unspecified future time."

The ARRL maintains that the status of the Amateur Radio Service allocation at 2300-2305 MHz remains relevant because of actions taken by the Commission, with respect to an adjacent band at 2305-2320 MHz and because the ARRL has filed a *Petition for Reconsideration* regarding the actions taken in the 2305-2320 MHz band, as well as other unrelated proposals for use of the 2300-2305 MHz band, including Medical Body Area Networks.

"Regarding the 2305-2320 MHz band, in May 2010, the Commission issued an [Order](#) that amended certain rules governing the Wireless Communications Service ([WCS](#)) to enable WCS licensees to provide mobile broadband services," the FCC stated in its *Order*. "In doing so, the Commission acknowledged that out-of-band emissions that could result from expanded use of WCS mobile devices in the 2305-2320 MHz band have the potential to increase interference to amateur radio operations in the 2300-2305 MHz band. During the course of the WCS proceeding, however, ARRL did not file any comments raising the issue of whether the Amateur Radio Service allocation status in the 2300-2305 MHz band should be modified. Although ARRL filed a *Petition for Reconsideration* of the WCS *Order*, it did not request a change in the status of the Amateur Radio Service allocation at 2300-2305 MHz in that filing. In its *Reply Comments to the Opposition* to its WCS *Petition*, ARRL specifically stated that it was not asking the Commission to revisit any aspect of its past decisions regarding that status."

The FCC stated that it believes that the RM-10165 proceeding concerning the ARRL's request to change the status of the Amateur Radio Service to primary in the 2300-2305 MHz band should be terminated, "since its request was dismissed and ARRL did not file a *Petition for Reconsideration* of that dismissal. Although the Commission's dismissal of RM-10165 left open the possibility that the allocation status for the Amateur Radio Service in this band could be considered again when the reserve status of that spectrum is evaluated, there has been no activity in that proceeding since October 2002. Furthermore, although [ARRL raises a concern](#) that a 2009 *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* proposed a secondary allocation in the 2300-2305 MHz band for Medical Body Area Networks, in that proceeding, the Commission did not seek comment on or propose to modify the Amateur Radio Service allocation in the 2300-2305 MHz band. In addition, we do not believe that the issues ARRL has raised on reconsideration in the WCS proceeding warrant holding open the RM-10165 proceeding. If ARRL still desires a change in the Amateur Radio Service allocation status in the 2300-2305 MHz band, it can file a new petition for rulemaking. Accordingly, RM-10165 is terminated."

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

President Obama Names Two Nominees for FCC Commissioner

From the ARRL 11/01/2011

President Barack Obama has nominated two new FCC Commissioners: Jessica Rosenworcel and Ajit Varadaraj Pai. Rosenworcel has been nominated to replace retiring Commissioner Michael Copps. President Obama selected Ajit Varadaraj Pai to fill the seat vacated by Meredith Attwell Baker, who left the FCC in June 2010. If Rosenworcel and Pai are confirmed by the Senate, the FCC would be at its full complement of five Commissioners.

The FCC has been down one commissioner since Baker's departure, and Copps' departure at the end of the year would leave the agency with only three commissioners: two Democrats and one Republican. Only three sitting Commissioners may be members of the same political party. At present, Chairman Julius Genachowski, Copps and Mignon Clyburn are Democrats. If confirmed, Pai will join Commissioner Robert McDowell as one of the two Republicans on the Commission.

Copps' Confidential Assistant Carolyn Conyers told the ARRL that Copps' term expired on June 30, 2010. "He is serving on what we call 'extended time,'" she explained. "He will leave office when Congress comes back from recess, whenever that may be, or when the nominee has completed her confirmation process, whichever comes first. But it is doubtful that Jessica's nomination process will be completed before the new year."

Copps has served as a Commissioner since May 2001. In January 2009, he took on the additional role of acting FCC Chairman, following the resignation of then-FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin. Copps relinquished the chairmanship to Julius Genachowski after Genachowski was confirmed by the US Senate and sworn into office in June 2009.

In June 2011, Baker [left the FCC](#) to join Comcast as its Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, NBCUniversal. Baker was [nominated by President Obama](#) in June 2009 and [sworn in](#) five weeks later. She filled the [unexpired term](#) of fellow Republican and former FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin, who resigned in January 2009; her term was to expire June 30, 2011.

FCC Issues Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture and Order to Florida Man for Using Unauthorized Equipment

From the ARRL 11/02/2011

Michael Perry, of Cross City, Florida, was issued a [Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture](#) in the amount of \$10,000 for operating a radio transmitter without the requisite FCC authorization. The FCC found that Perry "willfully violated section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended and Sections [95.409](#) and [95.411](#) of the Commission's rules."

In response to a complaint of interference, agents from the Enforcement Bureau's Tampa Office used direction-finding techniques on March 31, 2011 to locate the source of the interference to a signal on Citizens Band channel 28 (27.2850 MHz) that was coming from Perry's residence. The same day, agents from the Tampa Office inspected Perry's CB station, which he admitted to using earlier that day. The agents observed a non-certificated CB transmitter and three linear amplifiers as part of Perry's CB station. Perry admitted to the agents that two of the three linear amplifiers were capable of generating a power output of 200 W and 1500 W respectively, and that he had never tested the third. The agents observed that the transmitter and two of the amplifiers were warm to the touch, indicating that the devices had been recently operated.

The FCC directed Perry to submit a statement, signed under penalty of perjury, that to the extent he is engaged in CB operations, he is using a certified CB transmitter and has not attached any linear amplifiers to his CB station. Perry has until December 1, 2011 to submit his statement, as well as his payment of the forfeiture (or a written statement seeking reduction or cancellation of the forfeiture). Failure to comply with these requirements could subject the Perry to additional enforcement action.

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

ARRL in Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?

From the ARRL Letter 11/01/2011

Compiled by S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA ARRL News Editor k1sfa@arrl.org

This feature -- including convenient Web links to useful information -- is a concise monthly update of some of the things ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment covers the month of October.

The ARRL [released a statement](#) that the FCC did not go far enough in tightening their BPL interference rules.

The ARRL VEC reported that for the first time ever, there were [more than 700,000 radio amateurs in the US](#).

The ARRL's Executive Committee [met](#) in Dulles, Virginia. The minutes from the meeting are available [online](#). ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, successfully objected to material in a United States contribution to a meeting in advance of the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC). The material indicated maritime opposition to an affirmative outcome on Agenda Item 1.23. This agenda item considers 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.

Five newly elected or appointed Section Managers [met](#) in Newington for a weekend training workshop. For the 28th consecutive year, the ARRL [hosted](#) the United States Telecommunications Training Institute's Amateur Radio Administration Course.

ARRL Education Service Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, and ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, participated in the review process to select schools and education groups for ARISS contacts. Johnson and White also attended the ARISS International Meeting.

The new editions of [The ARRL Handbook](#) and [The ARRL Antenna Book](#), the [ARRL 2012 Calendar](#) and [ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio](#) (both the [CD-ROM](#) and [downloadable](#) versions) are now available.

The antennas at W1AW and W1HQ underwent their autumn inspection. A bent element on the 30 meter 3-element Yagi on W1AW's south tower was repaired.

Mark Spencer, WA8SME, returns to the ARRL as its Education and Technology Program Coordinator. He will be responsible for review of grant applications, curriculum and resource development, and coordination of instruction for the ARRL Teachers Institutes on Wireless Technology.

The ARRL's [Maxim Society](#) -- comprised of radio amateurs who have made financial commitments to ARRL exceeding \$10,000 in lifetime contributions -- now has 90 members.

Nominations are [currently being accepted](#) for the Bill Leonard, W2SKE, Professional Media Award. The ARRL's Emergency Communications Advisory Committee [released an interim report](#) that recommended improvements to ARES® and the National Traffic System.

The ARRL's DXCC Desk announced a [special reduced price option](#) for those radio amateurs holding QSL cards for the 2011 DXpedition to the Republic of South Sudan (ST0R).

A [new QuickStats poll](#) was made available on the ARRL website.

Official Observer Desk: ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, handled complaints regarding continuing intentional interference to a net on 20 meters, fishermen near Hawaii using 80 meters, a Missouri business using a repeater, an unidentified signal on 7.190 MHz and reports of [CODAR](#) on 12 meters. Skolaut also answered questions concerning operating overseas, antenna restrictions and repeater control.

This Week on the Radio

- November 12-13 -- Kentucky QSO Party; WAE DX Contest (RTTY); 10-10 International Fall Contest (Digital); JIDX Phone Contest; OK/OM DX Contest (CW); CWops Mini-CWT Test
- November 12-14 -- CQ-WE Contest
- November 13 -- SKCC Weekend Sprint
- November 14 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- November 17 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
-

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the [ARRL Contest Branch page](#), the [ARRL Contest Update](#) and the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the [ARRL Special Event Stations Web page](#).

AubieSat-1 designated AO-71

From QRZ.com, Bill Tynan, W3XO OSCAR Number Administrator

OSCAR Number Administrator, Bill Tynan, W3XO reports that he has advised J. M. Wersinger, PhD, KI4YAU, Professor Emeritus and Director of Auburn University's Student Space Program, that following the successful NASA ELaNa III launch on October 28, 2011 of AubieSat-1, and by the request of the AubieSat-1 team, the new satellite has been assigned an OSCAR number.

Professor Wersinger documented that telemetry has been received from the satellite. The IARU-Sat Website states that AubieSat-1 was fully coordinated with the IARU.

Bill wrote, "Therefore, by the authority vested in me by the AMSAT-NA President, I hereby designate AubieSat-1 as AubieSat Oscar 71 or AO-71 and welcome this newest OSCAR into the Amateur Radio satellite community.

On behalf of AMSAT-NA and the world's amateur radio satellite community, I congratulate Professor Wersinger, Auburn University and all of those responsible for building, testing and launching this new CubeSat. May its mission meet with success."

Russian taxi-interference on 28 MHz

From QRZ

Uli, DJ9KR reports on efforts to resolve the problem of taxi drivers in the Russian Federation using 28 MHz FM. On the IARU region 1 website his writes:

More than a year ago (24 October 2010) I asked the Headquarters of SRR, Box 88, 119311 Moscow (attention Roman R. Thomas RZ3AA, Yuri B. Malyuk RA4AR) for assistance because of the big number of illegal taxis in Russian language in FM in the range 28000 - 29700 kHz. The letter was by Air Mail and by e-Mail. Unfortunately I received no answer so far.

So I decided to contact the Russian telecom authorities directly. On 29 September 2011 I sent my complaint by fax and Registered Air Mail to the Radio Frequency Service, General Radio Frequency Centre, Federal State Unitary Enterprise, 7 Tverskaya Str., Moscow 125375.

To my surprise on 31 October 2011 I received an answer by fax re. RUS / CIS taxis in the range 28000 - 29700 kHz.

Here is the answer from Moscow: <http://www.iarums-r1.org/iarums/grfc2011>

IARU Region 1 <http://www.iaru-r1.org/>

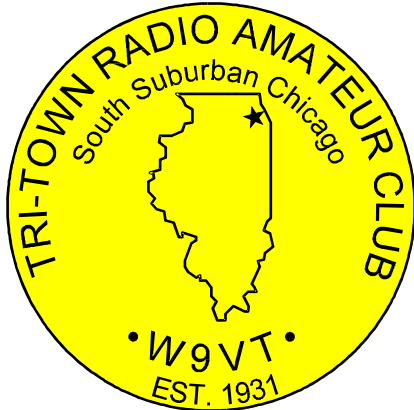
Please log reports of Amateur Band intruders online at <http://peditio.net/intruder/bluechat.cgi>

Check out the Club Website: WWW.W9VT.ORG

Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club Inc.
PO Box 1296
Homewood, IL 60430-0296

November 2011

First Class Mail



Check out the Club Website: **WWW.W9VT.ORG**

Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club Membership Application

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____ License Class _____ ARRL Member Y / N

City, State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email Address: _____

___ Regular Membership	\$ 20.00
___ SWL Membership	\$ 20.00
___ Extra Family Membership	\$ 6.00
___ Bunker Buddie	\$ 5.00

___ Auto Patch w/1 Speed Slot	\$ 25.00
___ Extra Speed Slots	\$ 5.00

\$ _____ Total Paid by Club Member

For Example: Regular Member, with A/P and Bunker Buddy (20+25+5) = \$ 50.00

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