

# telstar



THE NEWSLETTER OF STARS (SOUTHTOWNS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY)

ISSUE 305

MAY 2007

## HAM ASTRONAUT TO ATTEND DAYTON HAMVENTION

NASA Space shuttle veteran and International Space Station Expedition 12 commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, will be the League's guest at Dayton Hamvention 2007 in May. The first astronaut to work all states from space, McArthur has been applauded for inspiring others through his ham radio activities from NA1SS.

A graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point, McArthur, 55, holds a master's degree in aerospace engineering from Georgia Tech. As the keynote speaker at the 2006 AMSAT Space Symposium banquet and participant in the ARISS International conference last October in the San Francisco Bay area, McArthur enjoyed the opportunity to meet many radio amateurs during his stay, including some he'd worked from NA1SS.

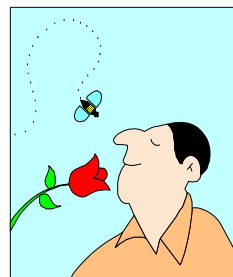
During his six months aboard the ISS -- from October 2005 until April 2006 -- McArthur became the most active ham-astronaut ever to serve in space, logging more than 1800 QSOs and picking up several honorary operating awards, including Worked All States (WAS) and Worked All Continents (WAC).

He told his AMSAT audience last fall that the tremendous enthusiasm of the radio amateurs and students he talked with via ham radio helped him to focus on why he was aboard the ISS.

Over the course of his ISS duty tour, McArthur, a veteran of four spaceflights and spacewalks, also established an impressive new milestone of 37 ARISS school contacts. In addition, he put 130 DXCC entities

## MAY MEETING

This month's club meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Thursday March 3 at the Hamburg Youth Center (corner of Prospect and Hawkins Avenues).



All interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Neither club membership nor an amateur radio license is required.

into the NA1SS log and is continuing to collect the necessary QSL cards to qualify for an honorary DXCC.

While in space, McArthur managed to contact all continents, including Antarctica, on both VHF and UHF. He and Expedition 12 Flight Engineer Valery Tokarev also released SuitSat-1 into orbit. An astronaut since 1990, McArthur now serves as safety and mission assurance manager for the shuttle program at Johnson Space Center.

- The ARRL News



STARS has been designated a Special Service Club by the ARRL.

## APPLICATION SURGE CONTINUES UNDER NEW AMATEUR RULES

It's been just a little more than two months since the FCC dropped the requirement that Amateur Radio applicants pass a Morse code test to earn operating privileges below 30 MHz. While the initial avalanche of applications immediately following February 23, when the no-Morse testing regime went into effect, has abated somewhat, business remains brisk for the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator staff.

ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM estimated that new Amateur Radio applications were up by 35 percent, while upgrade applications were up by 150 percent over last year's volume.

To satisfy his own curiosity, ARRL member Tommy Gober, N5DUX, compiled some FCC statistics on the number of new Technician, General and Extra licenses before and after the Morse code requirement was deleted. His numbers show the FCC issued nearly 700 more Amateur Extra, 3625 more General and 454 more Technician licenses in March 2007 than in the same month last year.

Figures from ARRL member and ham radio statistician Joe Speroni, AHOA, indicate the total number of Amateur Extra licensees is up 1649 from March 2006 to March 2007, while the General population grew by 2668. The total number of Technician licensees dropped by 1632 during the same period, however -- and it continues to drop going into April.

Speroni's figures also show that the grand total of Amateur Radio station licenses has declined by more than 12,800 over the past two years - to 655,048 at the end of March.

The still-heavy volume has stretched the amount of time it takes for an application to proceed from examination session to license grant. "I think we're looking at eight to ten days from the test date," Somma estimated.

A staff of seven full-time and three part-time employees handle the "incoming" from Amateur Radio exam sessions across the US and from other sites

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here it is May already, (Wow this year is flying by) which brings the Dayton and Rochester Hamfests so you might want to make plans to attend one or both of these events. I will be going Dayton this year and hope to be going to Rochester to attend the ARRL Forums for all of the area clubs. I will report back to you on the out come of these events most likely in my June column.

Next month is Field day and hopefully we will have John KA2RFT as our field day program speaker, Nobody does a better job than John at getting us ready for the event so we can get out to the site and have a great time.

I hope to see all of you at the May 3rd meeting!

73's

-Bob (KA2WYE) Koster

### The Romance:

Two antennas met on a roof,  
fell in love and got married.  
The ceremony wasn't much,  
but the reception was excellent.  
Since they were a perfect match,  
soon they generated harmonics,  
and wrapped the harmonics in dipoles.  
But later the harmonics turned out  
to be parasitic elements.

### The true story:

She was a tri-bander and he felt trapped,  
so they went on separate beam headings.

where US Amateur Radio examinations are administered through ARRL VEC.

There's no light at the end of the tunnel just yet. Somma and her staff are looking ahead to 450 examination sessions registered for May, another 400 in June and 320 apiece during July and August. And summer is "the slow season," she remarked. Another 900 test sessions already are on the calendar for the rest of 2007.

- Arrl News

## A LOOK AT HIGH FREQUENCY SINGLE-WIRE ANTENNAS — Part 2

- by Don Niles - K2PMC

In last month's article I discussed the "Vertical Angles of Arrived Signals" (VAAS) and how they impact the performance of your antenna. We also saw some elevation plots of the ubiquitous 80 meter dipole and the G5RV. I also promised I would discuss transmission lines. But, before we get into transmission lines, let's take a look at the 84' antenna I mentioned at the close of that article.

In the July 1996 issue of QST, Al Buxton, W8NX described a different type of trap dipole that operated on 80, 40, 17 and 10 meters, using a single coax transmission line. What made this antenna different from other trap type antennas is that unlike normal traps that isolate higher and lower frequency sections of the antenna, these traps are resonant at 5.16 MHz which means that the entire antenna is always in use.

Figures 1 and 4 are taken directly from Al's 1996 article. As you can see in Figure 1, the entire antenna is slightly less than 84' in length.

Referring to Figure 4, 40 meters is the only band where the SWR is below 2 to 1 for the entire band. On 80 meters it appears as though the antenna is resonant at about 3780 KHz. However, according to EZNEC, the resonant frequency is closer to 3860 KHz. The 2 to 1 SWR bandwidth is approximately 25 KHz either side of center frequency, or from 3835 to 3885 KHz. Let's say one day you decided to go down to 3580 KHz to do some PSK31 digital work. On

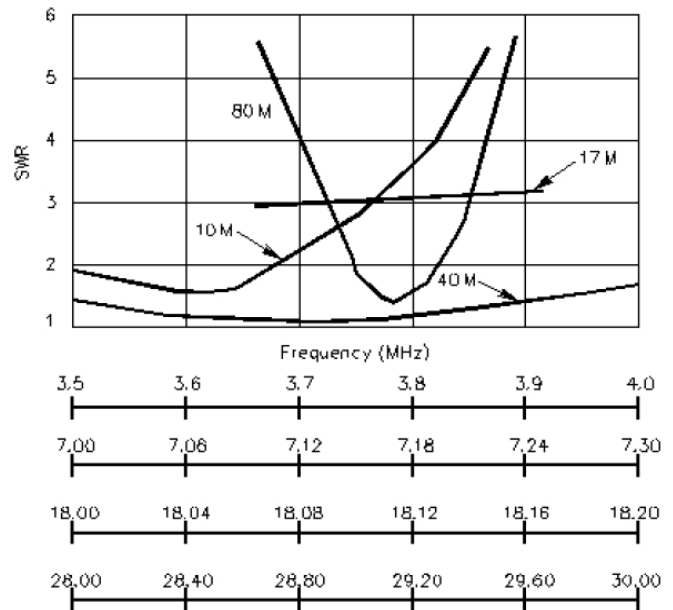


Figure 4—SWR plot of the improved trap dipole.

that frequency the SWR on your transmission line would be 82 to 1. At that point you might say, well I can just run that through my trusty antenna tuner and no problems. Well, yes you could and, depending on the capabilities of your antenna tuner, you might achieve a good match to your transmitter.

But, let's see what would actually happen to the 100 watts of power your transmitter would be putting into the transmission line. For this example let's assume you are using 100' of RG8/9913 low loss coax. Based upon the 82 to 1 SWR the power loss in the transmission line would be approximately 5db. So, with a line loss of 5db the actual power delivered to the antenna would be a little over 30 watts, with almost 70 watts of power consumed as heat in the coax. This kind of reflected power also heats baluns up fast. It's plain to see, this is not good.....

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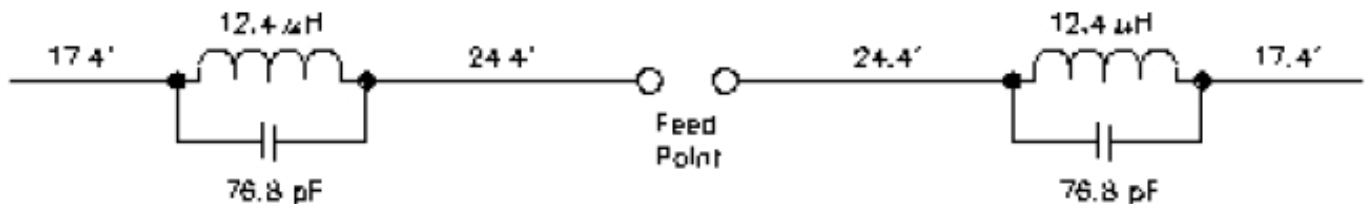
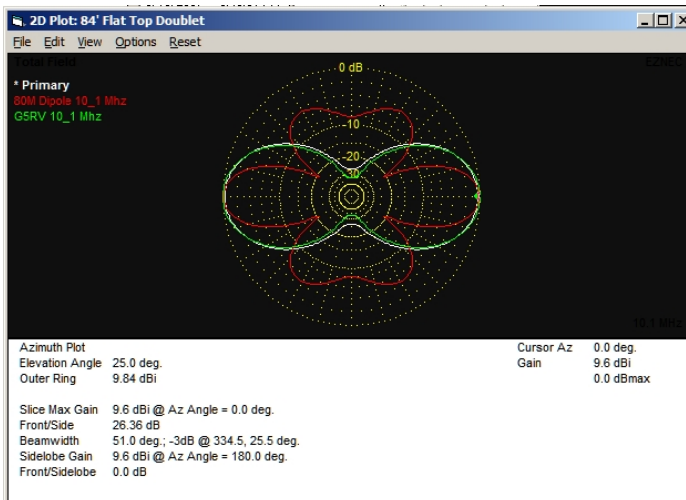


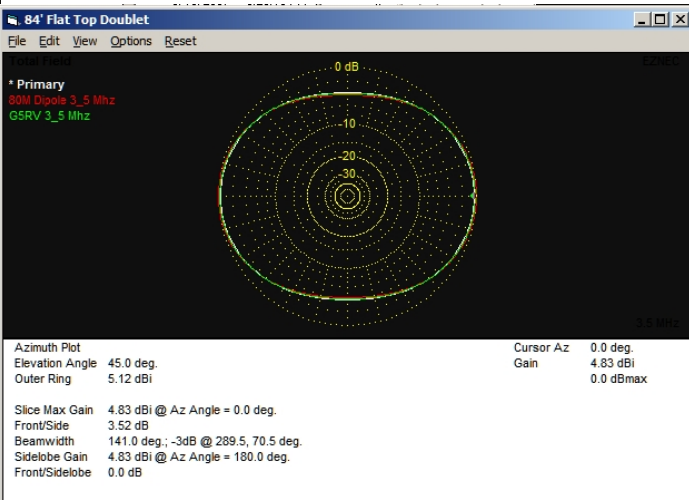
Figure 1—An improved 80, 40, 17 and 10-meter trap dipole.

So, while the W8NX trapped antenna is an interesting design, it does have its limitations when it comes to bandwidth. However, the thing that fascinated me about the flat top portion of the antenna was its radiation characteristics. You will see why in the plots that follow. The following several plots are Azimuth projections at practical angles of elevation for the respective bands.

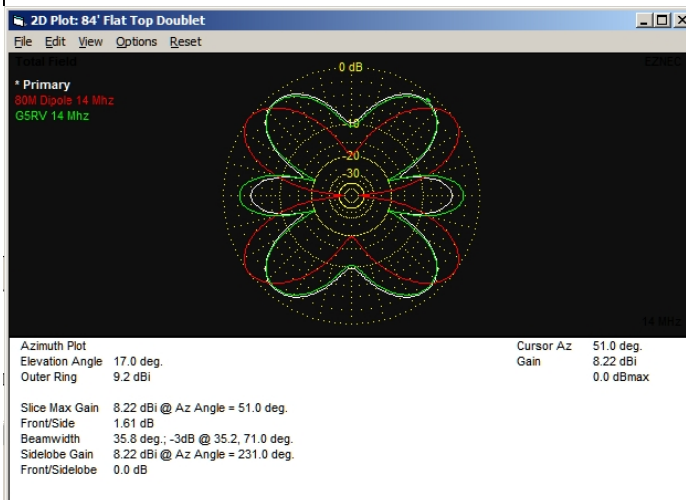
I have included an 80 meter dipole (132') and the G5RV (102') for comparison. The plots may look a little busy, but they do provide an interesting graphical comparison of the 3 antennas. Again, the antennas are modeled at a height of 50' above average ground.



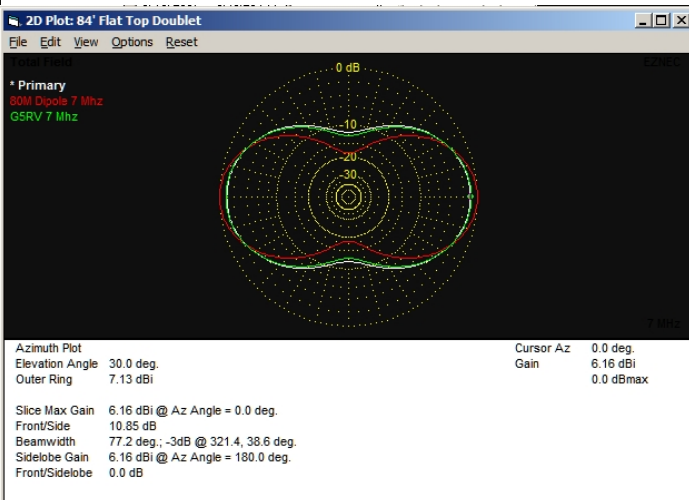
On 30 meters, all 3 antennas exhibit the same maximum gain. The 80 meter dipole does show some radiation off the ends. However, the main lobes of the G5RV and the 84' antenna are significantly broader than the 80 meter antenna.



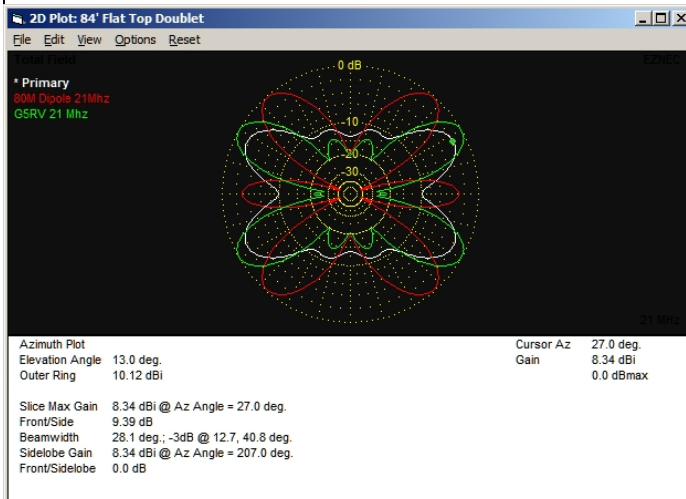
As you can see in Exhibit 1, on 80 meters there is virtually no difference in gain or pattern for all 3 antennas.



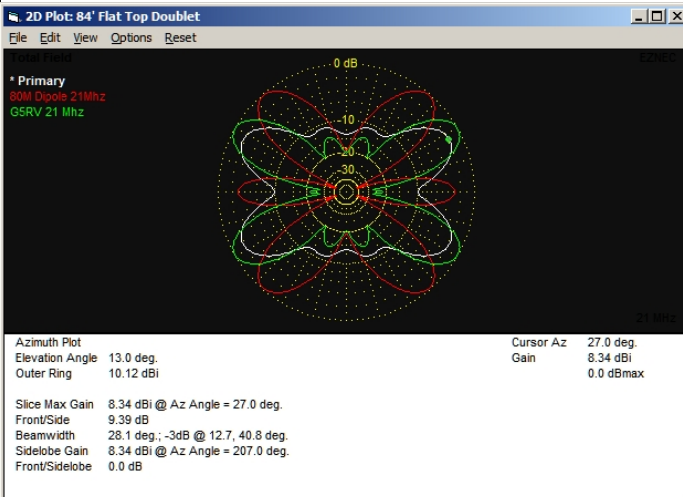
On 20 meters, the patterns are a little different, but the 80 meter dipole exhibits only a 1 db gain over ei-



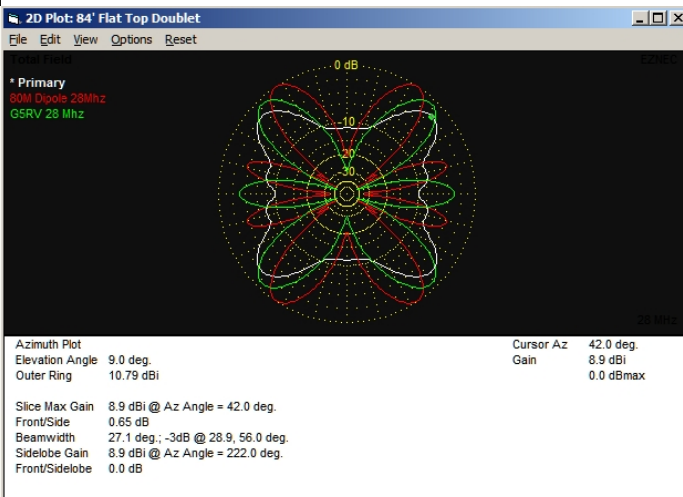
On 40m, the 80 meter dipole does show a small gain of <1 db while the 84' antenna is equal to the G5RV.



ther of the other 2 antennas.



At first blush on 15 meters, it may look as though the 80 meter dipole is substantially better than either of the other antennas. However, if you look at the exhibit carefully, you will see that the G5RV is practically as good, while the 84' antenna is <2 db weaker.



The 10 meter patterns approximate the 15 meter patterns with the 84' antenna <2 db off the 80 meter dipole.

By now, you should know why I was so interested in this 84' flat top antenna. Here we have an antenna that is almost 50' shorter than an 80 meter dipole, but performs about as well on all bands.

However, there is one big fly in the ointment. That is, how are we going to get the power efficiently transferred to this short antenna without burning up the

(Continued on page 6)

## STARS & ARRL Memberships

Membership in STARS is open to anyone with an interest in amateur radio. A license is not required. Membership applications may be downloaded from the club website or obtained by sending a SASE to Judy Levan N2TEZ, 120 University Blvd., Depew, NY 14043.

Annual dues are payable on January 1 and are \$21 for a single membership, \$27 for family memberships and \$8 for a student membership (through grade 12). The dues are pro-rated on a monthly basis for new members plus there is an initiation fee of \$5 when first applying to the club. For example, a new member joining in July would pay \$15.50 (6 months X \$1.75 per month plus the \$5 initiation fee).

Applications should be returned to Judy N2TEZ along with the appropriate dues. The applications will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors and then voted on by the general membership at the next regular club meeting.

Members who are joining ARRL for the first time or who are renewing their membership should send their ARRL membership forms to Jack Cullum KB2ESM, 6871 Webster Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127 along with a check made out to STARS. No extra cost to you and STARS benefits!

## Club Nets

STARS club nets are open to all to exchange information on local amateur radio activities.

STARS WB2EZU Memorial HF net meets at 10AM local time on Saturdays on 3.925 MHz +/- QRM. Bob Lehning WA2YSJ is usually the net controller.

STARS co-sponsors, along with WB2JPQ, the Sunday morning RagChew Net at 9:30AM on 28.380 Mhz.



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feed line? As you might expect, the major problem is on 80 meters, where the antenna is significantly shorter than a half wave. And, being so short it exhibits the same extremely low feed point impedance characteristics as any short antenna. At 3.7 MHz that impedance is  $22.8 - j654.3$  ohms. This translates to a SWR of  $>100$  for 50 ohm coax and 58 to 1 for 600 ohm open wire line. Now open wire line handles high SWR well, but, for other reasons which we will discuss in the future, 58 to 1 is a little too high. So, we need a way to get that SWR down to a more reasonable value.

As we all know, the way to increase the impedance of this short antenna is by adding some capacitive end loading. I did this by adding a 10' vertical section of wire onto either end of the flat top. Doing this raised the impedance to  $35.43 - j360$  ohms. And, as you can see, it also reduced the capacitive reactance, resulting in a SWR of 75 to 1 for 50 ohm coax and 23 to 1 for 600 ohm open wire line. Furthermore, the capacitive end loading, because it is relatively short, has virtually no effect on the radiation pattern of the flat top, which is what we want.

Now our antenna looks like this

....

You might think 23 to 1 is a high SWR. But, 23 to 1 SWR is not a big problem when using 600 ohm open wire line. At a SWR of 23 to 1, the loss in 100' of 600 ohm open wire line on 80 meters is .74 db. Stated another way, almost 85 of your 100 watts will end up being radiated by the flat top.

As we move up in frequency, the antenna becomes longer with respect to wave length, thereby increasing the impedance and lowering the SWR considerations.

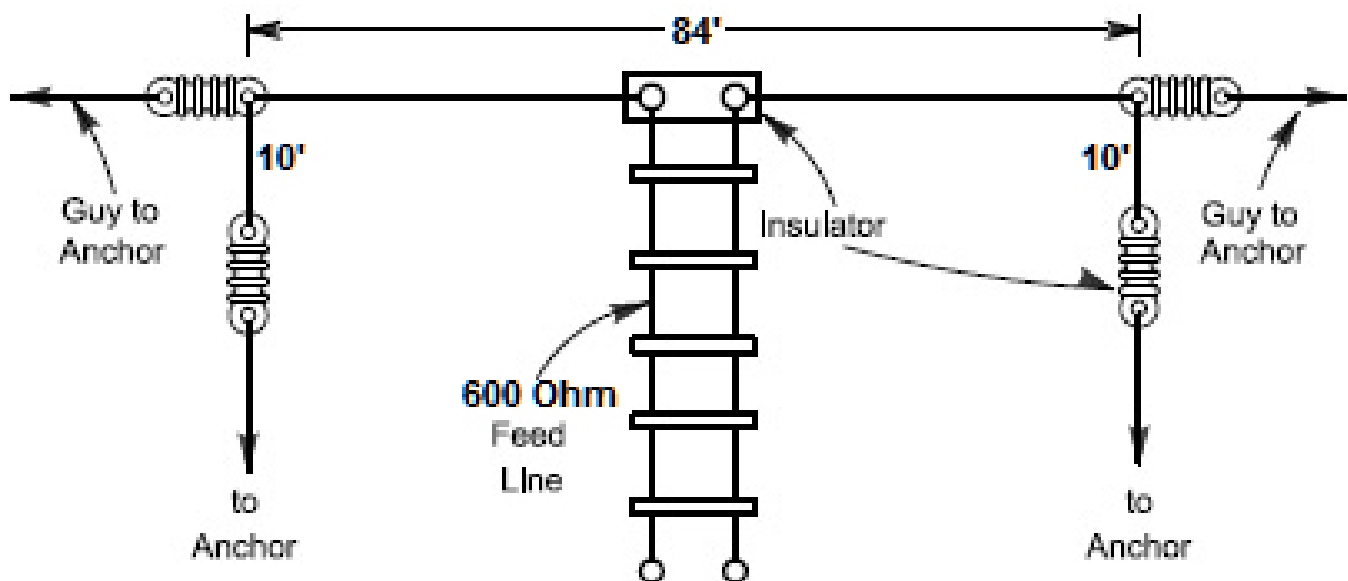
The following are worst case examples of db loss per 100' on each of the upper bands:

40 meters - .34 db  
 30 meters - .76 db  
 20 meters - .65 db  
 15 meters - .86 db  
 10 meters - .57 db

Here we have an antenna that we can put up in a fairly small area, with little or no compromise in performance. Life is good..... but we're still not out of the woods yet. We need to get that feed line into the shack. We'll work on that next month.

Next time we will talk more about transmission lines, baluns/chokes and maybe more antennas.

73, Don - K2PMC



## MAY SPECIAL EVENTS

### NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEK— HONORING FALLEN SOLDIERS

**May 15**, 0100Z-2359Z, Las Vegas, NV. US Intl Police Association Radio Club, W7A. 21.410 14.240. QSL. USIPARC Award Mgr R. Faulkner, 3066 Lake Barkley Rd, Henderson, NV 89052. w6rf@cox.net

### 400TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF JAMESTOWN VA

**May 4-25**, 1300Z-2100Z, Jamestown, VA. Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club, W4J. 28.325 18.15 14.25 7.261. QSL. Russell Chandler KU4FP, 132 Druid Dr, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

**May 5-6**, 1400Z-0200Z, Sherando Lake, VA. Valley Amateur Radio Association, W4XD. 14.240 7.240 3.840. Certificate. See Web site for QSL information. [www.qsl.net/w4xd](http://www.qsl.net/w4xd)

**May 11-12**, 1200Z-1800Z, Deltaville, VA. Middlesex Amateur Radio Group, N4GHI. Capt Smith exploration of Chesapeake. 14.025 7.025 3.525. See website for certificate information. [N4GHI@winlink.org](mailto:N4GHI@winlink.org)

**May 11-13**, 0100Z-2359Z, Jamestown Island, VA. Dominion DX Group, K4J. Jamestown 400th Anniversary Official State Partner Station. 21.325 14.325 7.225 3.855. See website for certificate information. [www.ddxg.net](http://www.ddxg.net)

**May 11-13**, 1200Z-2300Z, Harwich, UNITED KINGDOM. GB400AA events team, GB400AA. 400th Anniversary of ships setting out for America (UK side). 14.284 14.024 7.040 3.724. See website for QSL information. [www.gb400aa.net](http://www.gb400aa.net)

**May 12-13**, 1330Z-2030Z, Jamestown/Williamsburg, VA. Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club, W4J. 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, Virginia (1607). 21.350 18.150 14.250 7.261. QSL. Russell Chandler, KU4FP, 132 Druid Dr, Williamsburg, VA 23185. Certificate for working all three special event stations for WAARC Jamestown, Colonial Williamsburg, and Yorktown Battlefield. [www.qsl.net/waarc](http://www.qsl.net/waarc)

### AVIATOR GLENN H. CURTISS:100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "FASTEST MAN ON EARTH".

**May 12**, 1400Z-2200Z, Hammondsport, NY. Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association, N2WEA. 28.400 14.275 7.250 3.925 possibly 21.365. Certificate. KLARA, c/o Carrie & Glenn French, 62 S Main St, Avoca, NY 14809. [www.klara.us](http://www.klara.us)

### GREATER NIAGARA FRONTIER COUNCIL 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCOUTING AT FT NIAGARA, NY.

**May 19**, 1400Z-2200Z, Buffalo, NY. Lancaster Amateur Radio Club, Inc, W2SO. 14.290 7.270. QSL. Lancaster Amateur Radio Club, Inc, 525 Pavement Rd, Lancaster, NY 14086. [larc.hamgate.net/radio\\_info](http://larc.hamgate.net/radio_info) or [wnyscouting.org/council\\_info](http://wnyscouting.org/council_info)

### 91ST RUNNING OF THE INDIANAPOLIS 500.

**May 24-28**, 1500Z-0300Z, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, W9IMS. 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 18495, Indianapolis, IN 46218-0495. Certificate and QSL available, see Web site. [www.w9ims.com](http://www.w9ims.com)

### EXPRESS THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO OUR TROOPS AND VETERANS

**May 26**, 1400Z-1700Z, Fort Wayne, IN. Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day, KC9HAJ.. 7.260 14.260 Echolink IRLP. Certificate. ARMAD, 6116 Graymoor Ln, Fort Wayne, IN 46835. Worldwide IRLP node # 9258 and Echolink nodes # 267069, 16686, 106819, and 6154. See Web site for full information. [www.armad.net](http://www.armad.net)

**May 28**, 1200Z-2359Z, Nutley, NJ. Robert D. Grant United Labor Amateur Radio Assoc, N2UL. CQ Memorial Day, honoring our heros. 28.420 14.260 449.975. Certificate. RDGULARA, c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716.

**May 28**, 1400Z-2130Z, Baton Rouge, LA. USS Kidd Amateur Radio Club, W5KID. Memorial Day. SSB 14.250 to 14.320 CW 28.060 21.060 14.060 10.106 7.040. QSL. W5KID, c/o USS Kidd Museum, 305 South River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. [www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS\\_Kidd.htm](http://www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm)

**May 28**, 1500Z-2200Z, Waterloo, IA. Five Sullivan Brothers Amateur Radio Club, W0FSB. Memorial Day Honoring All Veterans. 21.240 14.240 7.240. Certificate. Vernon Mc Nulty, 4015 Independence Ave, Waterloo, IA 50703. [t-mc-nulty@msn.com](mailto:t-mc-nulty@msn.com)

**May 28-29**, 2215Z-0000Z, Mancelona, MI. Wolverine SSB Net, WT8J. Memorial Day. 3.935. QSL. Maurice McGleish, K8CPW, PO Box 767, Mancelona, MI 49659. [wssbn.com](http://wssbn.com)

## DAYTON 2007

The Dayton Hamfest/Convention is  
May 18-20, 2007.

The theme this year is **Local Clubs: The Heart of Ham Radio...** to acknowledge the support that local ham radio clubs around the world provide to their communities and to amateur radio.

But where did it all start?

About 1950, John Willig, W8ACE, had asked the Dayton Amateur Radio Association to sponsor a HAM Convention but was turned down. John wanted to have a quality affair. Speakers and prizes would be a drawing point. John finally found a champion in Frank Schwab, W8YCP (W8OK), the newly elected president of the club. A meeting was held and the DARA Board allocated \$100 to get started. The first organizational meeting was held in January 1952.

The Southwestern Ohio Hamvention was born. The first committee consisted of: John Willig, W8ACE, General Chairman Al Dinsmore, W8AUN, Arrangements Bob Siff, W8QDI (K4AMG), Prizes and Exhibits Frank Schwab, W8YCP (W8OK), Publicity Bob Montgomery, W8CUJ, Finance Clem Wolford, W8ENH, Program Ellie Haburton, W8GJP (W4ZVW), Women's Committee The next year the name became "Dayton Hamvention®" and was registered as a trademark.

April was determined to be the best time but the Biltmore Hotel, in downtown Dayton was booked. March 22 was the chosen date, causing a short lead time. How far did \$100 go? Not far! A 12' TV was raffled off to help raise funds. The FCC agreed to give license exams and Phil Rand, W1BDM, a pioneer in TVI elimination was on the program. First prize, a Collins 75A2, was purchased locally.

Hoping for 300 visitors, the committee was amazed that over 600 showed up! There were 7 exhibitors and 6 forums. The ladies program was successful with a luncheon at the Biltmore and a trip to a local TV station. In 1955 the Awards Program began with the "Amateur of the Year." The Flea Market has grown from 200 to more than 2000 spaces. In 1964 the Hamvention® moved to Hara Arena. Shuttle buses and handicapped parking were added in 1969. In 1973 it

became a 2 day event with Sundays added in 1974. The program has grown to a "Souvenir Program" and in 1976 the dimensions changed from 6"x 9" to the current 8-1/2"x11".

The growth of the Dayton Hamvention® can be attributed to caring, energetic people who enjoy being on a winning team.

*-Dayton Hamvention Website*

## MAY CONTESTS

**10-10 International Spring Contest** -- CW/Digital, from 0001Z May 5-2359Z May 6. Logs due May 21 (see Feb QST, p 100, or [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)).

**New England QSO Party** -- CW/Phone, 2000Z May 5-0500Z May 6 and 1300Z-2400Z May 6. New England is ME, NH, VT, MA, CT and RI. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 3.540, 7.035, 14.040, 21.040, 28.040; SSB -- 3.850, 7.280, 14.280, 21.380, 28.380; no crossmode or crossband QSOs, all CW QSOs in CW band segments. For more information: [www.neqp.org](http://www.neqp.org).

**7th Area QSO Party** -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the Central Oregon DX Club from 1300Z May 5-0700Z May 6. Frequencies: 160-10 meters, 6 and 2 meters; CW: 40 kHz above band edge; SSB: 3.855, 7.235, 14.255, 21.355, 28.455; no repeater QSOs. For more information: [www.7qp.org](http://www.7qp.org).

**IPA Contest** -- CW/SSB, sponsored by the International Police Association US Section from 1400Z-2000Z May 5 (CW), 1400Z-2000Z May 6 (SSB); each mode considered a separate contest. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Categories: SOAB, MS, SWL. For more information: [www.iparc.org](http://www.iparc.org).

**Radio Club of America QSO Party** -- Phone, from 1700Z May 5-0700Z May 6. Exchange: RST, QTH, name, equipment used. RCA members sign their calls /RCA. Band changes throughout the day. For more information: [www.radioclubofamerica.org](http://www.radioclubofamerica.org).

**Armed Forces Amateur/Military Crossband Communications Test** -- the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual military/Amateur Radio communications tests in celebration of Armed Forces Day the following weekend (the test is held earlier to avoid the Dayton Hamvention). Various military stations will be listening for amateurs from 1200Z May 12-2400Z May 13. For complete information, including call signs, operating schedules and frequency/mode lists: [www.netcom.army.mil/mars](http://www.netcom.army.mil/mars).

*(Continued on page 9)*



## HAM RADIO TRIVIA

Test your knowledge with these questions taken from the QRZ.COM trivia website.

- A.P.R.S. is an acronym for:
  - Automatic Position Reporting System
  - American Packet Repeater Society
  - Amateur Packet Radio System
  - Amateur Propagation Reporting System
- A.R.E.S is an acronym for:
  - Amateur Radio Experimenters Society
  - Amateur Radio Emergency Service
  - Amateur Radio Emissions Service
  - Amateur Radio Emergency System
- The "Q" signal which signifies "who is calling me" is:
  - QRS
  - QRL
  - QRZ
  - QRO
- Baudot refers to...
  - A French movie star of the 1960's
  - An international cable code
  - A measure of digital transmission speed
  - A teleprinter code
- If you blew the final tube in your Heathkit DX-20 transmitter, where might you find another one?
  - In a console radio from the 1930s
  - In a Navy radar unit from World War II
  - In a black and white TV set from the 1950s
  - In a color TV set from the 1960s
- All vertical antennas must be "end-fed"
  - True
  - False
- Why does adding radials to a 1/4 vertical antenna seem to increase the SWR?
  - Feedpoint impedance is changed
  - Losses for FWD and reflected power are decreased
  - Mechanical stability is increased
  - The phase angle of the reflected power is shifted a few degrees
- Which of these bands is significantly misnomered?
  - 40 meters
  - 20 meters
  - 15 meters
  - 2 meters

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**Mid-Atlantic QSO Party** -- SSB/FM/CW, sponsored by the Independent Mid-Atlantic QSO Party Committee from 1600Z May 12-0400Z May 13. Mid-Atlantic States include DE, MD-DC, NJ, NY, PA, VA and WV. Frequencies: 160-10 meters, 50 kHz from bottom of band segment for operating mode; 50, 144, 222 and 432 MHz. For more information: [www.maqp.info](http://www.maqp.info).

**FISTS Spring Sprint** -- CW, sponsored by the FISTS CW Club from 1700Z-2100Z May 12 (see Feb QST, p 100, or [www.fists.org/sprints.html](http://www.fists.org/sprints.html)).

**50 MHz Spring Sprint** -- from 2300Z May 12-0300Z May 13 (see [www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprinrules.htm](http://www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprinrules.htm)).

**Nevada QSO Party** -- CW/SSB/RTTY -- sponsored by the Area 51 Contest Club from 0001Z May 12 - 2359Z May 12. Frequencies: 160 - 6 meters, CW 15 kHz and SSB 25 kHz above General class band edge. For more information: [nv.arrl.org/NQP](http://nv.arrl.org/NQP).

**EU PSK DX Contest** -- sponsored by the Scottish-Russian Amateur Radio Society from 1200Z May 19-1200Z May 20. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Categories: SOAB (HP, LP). For more information: [www.srars.org](http://www.srars.org).

**US Counties QSO Party** -- SSB, sponsored by The Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, from 0000Z May 19-2400Z May 20. Frequencies (MHz): 3.880, 7.240, 14.275, 21.340, 28.340. Work fixed stations once per band and mobiles once from each county and band. For more information: [www.marac.org](http://www.marac.org).

**All America Contest** -- CW, sponsored by the Juiz de Fora CW Group from 1500Z May 19-2359Z May 20. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Categories: SOAB, SOAB-QRP, SOSB, MS. For more information: [www.powerline.com.br/cwjf](http://www.powerline.com.br/cwjf).

**CQ WW WPX Contest** -- CW, sponsored by CQ Magazine from 0000Z May 26-2400Z May 27 (see Mar QST, p 90, or [www.cqwp.com](http://www.cqwp.com)).

**QRP ARCI Hoot Owl Sprint** -- CW, sponsored by the QRP ARC International from 2000-2400 local time May 27 (see Dec 2006 QST, p 79, or [www.qrparci.org/](http://www.qrparci.org/) and click on Hoot Owl Sprint).

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- Where is the world's largest amateur radio "hamfest" held?
    - Sydney, Australia
    - London, England
    - Friedrichshafen, Germany
    - Dayton, Ohio, USA

(Answers on next page)

### **CLUB REPEATERS**

The club repeater (WB2ELW/R) is located near Colden, NY (147.09/.69 output/input) with a PL of 107.2 Hz). Use a PL of 141.3 for the Nike Base remote receiver. STARS honorary southern repeater (KE2VW/R) is in Arkwright, NY (146.67/.07 output/input with a PL of 107.2 Hz). The club UHF repeater is location near Colden, NY (442.325 MHz with a PL of 107.2 Hz).

### **CLUB MEETINGS**

Club meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at the Hamburg Youth Center (Prospect and Hawkins Avenues) at 7:00PM. Everyone is welcome. Board meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Nike Base Club Station at 7:30PM and are open to all club members.

### **CLUB HF STATION**

The club Nike Base HF station is located on Lakeview Road 1.75 miles east of Route 20 next to the Hamburg Town Arena.

### **AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS**

STARS will be holding test sessions during 2007. Test dates are set for May 12, July 14, Sept 8, and Nov 10. For information or to pre-register for STARS tests, contact John Crawford KB2VWC at 649-5933.

Lancaster ARC will be holding test sessions on a quarterly basis. For information on or to pre-register for Lancaster exams, call Hal Cameron NH7R at 832-0031. Pre-registration is required.

ARATS will be hold test sessions on the first Saturday of the month (except when falling on a holiday weekend, when they will be on the second Saturday) starting promptly at 10AM at the North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters at 495 Zimmerman Street. Walk-ins accepted, pre-registration is highly recommended. For information on or to pre-register for ARATS exams, call Vic Godzik K2YW at 694-9738 or email k2yw@hotmail.com.

PROS holds test sessions as needed at 585 North Star Road, East Aurora. For information, contact Pat Murray NW2I at 652-8178.

Answers to Trivia Quiz:

1-d; 2-b; 3-c; 4-d; 5-c; 6-b; 7-b; 8-c; 9-d