
CQ BARS

Volume XXVII Issue 2

February 2009

President's Corner

Well, I hope everyone has been enjoying the nice weather. With that in mind, the eight-hour advance spotter class is coming up on March 14th at Wheaton College. Online registration URL is <http://dupageseverweather.com>. Don't forget to sign up. The cost this year is \$30.00. If you are a new spotter, you will need to take the two basic classes prior to taking this one. Check with the Will County OEM website for classes and dates in our area.

Also, this is the time to check your equipment and have a 'go bag / kits' ready with essentials if you go mobile during severe weather events. Include flashlights, batteries, paper towels, note pad, pencil/pen, etc. Please listen to your net controls during the nets and they will let you know what they need as far as the reporting procedures that they're requesting. Being prepared is the name of the game.

We're going to try to have echolink up on 440 by the time you read this newsletter. There are some bugs but we will see if we can work them out shortly. I hope everyone makes the next meeting because we need to talk about several different issues. The first is Hamfest – I need your support to make this work. The second is Field Day – I would like the club to go 6A again. But again, I will need your support to make this a fun weekend for all.

Hope to see you all next Monday night at 7 PM.

Tom, N9LJY
BARS President

Secretary's Column

I've been asked by several folks about putting together a roster of club membership. I did put one together that was to be added to the web site, but complications arose when it was discovered that the software being used will not allow access to be restricted to club members only. After discussion with some of the board members it was decided that I should go ahead and publish one that would only be E-Mailed to the membership. With the prevalence of Identity theft I would like for each of you to have the opportunity of 'opt out' of having your address and phone numbers published. I already have one member who has asked for that very thing. Please send me an E-Mail before March 1 if

you would like for only your call to be published. After that date I will send out via E-Mail a roster of all life and paid members ONLY to those members.

If you've been listening to (and checking in to) the weekly nets you've heard N9ZMM (Archie) talking about snacks at the meetings. This is an excellent opportunity to increase your caloric intake. Let's remember to bring something to share at the February meeting.

Also, I believe Archie has suggested the possibility of putting together a bus ride to Dayton for the Hamvention. Is anyone interested? Please make it known and we can see what can be done to make it happen.

73's for this month

Don - N9VJV

Last Months Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened at 19:00 hours by N9LJY (Tom). Introductions followed. Officers present were: KC9JQW (AJ), N9VJV (Don), and KC9JLK (Marianne). Also present at the meeting were:

N9LJY	KC9GRH	KC9JLK
WB9PDD	N9ZMM	KC9KQH
W9WRS	NE9G	WA9II
KH6KI	KC9BKP	KB9LMK
N9VJV		

A motion to accept the minutes as published in CQ Bars was made by KB9LMK (Dale), seconded by N9QOB (Ron) and carried

KC9JLK (Marianne) presented the Treasurer's report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2 meter: N9LJY (Tom) reported that the machine was working

220/440 WA9IL (John) reported that both the 220 and the 440 machines were working well. Echolink is coming soon on the 440 machine. No IRLP is currently planned...

Net Control: N9ZMM (Archie) reported that checkins are down. He presented the awards for the most times checked in to KC9GRH (Brian) and N9RAT (Robert). He suggested that as additional net be considered, possibly being a Slow Scan TV net.

Hamfest: N9LJY (Tom) reported that the decision about whether to have one in 2009 will be discussed in detail at the January meeting. N9ZMM (Archie) will publicize the decision on the net and try to get commitments to help. Would be on Aug. 2 with VE testing. Signup will be at the Feb meeting.

Education: No Report.

VE: No report.

Field Day: N9LJY (Tom) reported that the plan is to hold it in the same location as last year (Meyer Park). We need to get listed on the ARRL Web site.

Public Relations: No Report.

Skywarn: No Report. The Advanced seminar will be in March. KB9LMK (Dale) thanked all who participated in the Earthquake Drill.

OLD BUSINESS:

N9LJY (Tom) presented certificates of appreciation to KH6KI (Barry) and KC9BKP (Andy). A motion to make them honorary members was made by N9ZMM (Archie), seconded by WA9IL (John) and carried.

A motion to close old business was made by WA9IL (Archie), seconded by WB9PDD (Stan) and carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

N9ZMM (Archie) suggested that food (snacks) be available at meetings to help boost attendance. The 50/50 could be used to pay for it. Tom will talk to Toni about it.

A motion to close new business was made by KC9GRH (Brian), seconded by KC9JLK (Marianne) and carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by KC9GRH (Brian), seconded by N9QOB (Ron) and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Don, N9VJV
Secretary

World Radio Online

The first issue of World Radio Online -- February 2009 -- is now posted on the CQ website. It is available to all without charge.

To download and view the issue, go to the CQ home page at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com> and click on the "World Radio Online" box. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader in order to read World Radio Online. If you do not have it, scroll to the bottom of the welcome page and you will find a link for a free download.

To sign up for the free WorldRadio Online e-mail alert list, which will provide detailed previews of each issue, go to <http://mailman.sunserver.com/mailman/listinfo/WorldRadio-L> and register.

WorldRadio Online is a monthly publication of CQ Communications, Inc.

From our New Section Emergency Coordinator:

Gentlemen and Ladies:

CQ BARS

The ARRL Illinois Section Manager, Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN, has asked me to serve as the Illinois Section Emergency Coordinator. I have agreed to accept the post, and, it became official at 1600 local today, 31 JAN 2009.

By way of introduction, I have about 45 years of experience in communications having been continuously licensed and active since 1963. I have served in Navy-Marine Corps MARS Region IV senior management as Emergency Communications Officer and as Training Officer, and, I am currently a member of Army MARS. I also serve as SATERN's National Training Officer, and, am a member/NCS and assistant manager of the Hurricane Watch Net. Professionally, I have carried badge and gun as a police officer and detective, been a newscaster and news director (radio), and spent 20 years in heavy industry as a maintenance manager and engineer. I am now retired.

Over the course of time, I hope that I get to meet you all. I believe we share a common goal, that of serving our communities and neighbors thru our efforts in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

In my last message, I failed to include contact info. My apologies - I'm still learning the Google Groups mail interface and, I admit that the message got posted, thru some combination of inadvertent keystrokes, before I completed it.

The most reliable email address for me is w9fx@arrl.net. Mail to that address flows into my home LAN 24/7. Gmail is occasionally turned on but not with the regularity of my 'main' account.

So...here's my contact info:

Brad Pioveson, W9FX
301 Kirsch St.
Benton, IL 62812-1706
Home: 618.439.9262
Cell: 618.435.0213
SMS: 6184350213@vtext.com
Email: w9fx@arrl.net

ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ISSUES MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATION POLICY STATEMENT

On January 30, at the instruction of the Board of Directors at its January 2009 meeting, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted a policy statement on mobile Amateur Radio operations. The statement addresses the growing number of proposed state and local laws and ordinances regulating the use of cellular telephone and text messaging, inadvertently affecting Amateur Radio mobile communications

<<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/MobileAmateurRadioPolicyStatement.pdf>>

In its statement, the Executive Committee urges state and municipal legislators to limit the scope of their proposals, limiting them to devices such as full duplex wireless telephones and related handheld or portable equipment. Alternately, it suggests that licensed Amateur Radio operation be listed specifically as an exclusion to the proposed regulations.

"At the start of each new session, you see a flurry of this type of proposal in state legislatures across the country," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. As of February 1, 2009, Henderson said that the ARRL is aware of proposals in 11 states: Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Montana, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming, as well as several local city or town proposals.

"These proposals are usually intended to regulate cellular telephone and text messaging by drivers as a matter of safety but, when they are written in very broad terms, can include Amateur Radio mobile operations in the 'net' they cast," Henderson continued. "The Executive Committee's policy statement gives a good, concise background of the role the Amateur Service plays in public safety and service communications. It also highlights the differences between communications conducted by cellular telephone and those using Amateur Radio. Finally, the statement offers some suggested statutory language for state motor vehicle codes which would protect Amateur Radio mobile operation."

The ARRL recognizes that driver inattention is a leading cause of automobile accidents. The policy statement raises the fact that cell phones utilize full duplex communications -- where the user is talking and listening simultaneously. The Executive Committee statement says "Two-way radio use is dissimilar from full-duplex cellular telephone communications because the operator spends little time actually transmitting; the time spent listening is more similar to, and arguably less distracting than listening to a broadcast radio, CD or MP3 player.

There are no distinctions to be made between or among Amateur Radio, public safety land mobile, private land mobile or citizen's radio in terms of driver distraction. All are distinguishable from mobile cellular telephone communications in this respect."

The ARRL Policy Statement also recognizes the responsibility of the amateur community to conduct its activities in a manner that does not create unsafe operation of their motor vehicle. "Safety has to be a top concern at all times," Henderson concluded.

SAVE THE DATE: ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD AT 2009 DAYTON HAMVENTION

The ARRL National Convention will be held at the Dayton Hamvention May 15-17 at Hara Arena <<http://www.hamvention.org/>>. According to ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, the ARRL National Convention will be filled with activities and exhibits. "Our host organization, the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, has three big days planned, chock-full of every bit of Amateur Radio you can think of,"

Inderbitzen said. "ARRL volunteers from across its 15 National Divisions will be present, alongside thousands of out-of-towners who will make Dayton their home-away-from-home during the event. The centerpiece of ARRL's convention planning is ARRL EXPO -- a huge showcase of ARRL program representatives and activities. Many new exhibits are being planned, with special focus on operating and project-building." A preview of what is planned for ARRL EXPO can be found at the ARRL EXPO Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/expo>>.

The ARRL EXPO, located in the large exhibit area in the Ballarena Hall (near the 400-numbered booths), will showcase exhibits and activities to enhance the ham radio experience. Open to both ARRL members and nonmembers, ARRL EXPO is packed with official ARRL program representatives, activities and forums. Visit the ARRL bookstore for popular publications and products, join the ARRL or renew your membership, and pick up official ARRL merchandise. All who join the ARRL or renew their membership at the Dayton Hamvention will receive a free gift.

Personnel from the ARRL DXCC Branch will be on hand to check DX cards and applications. All cards will be eligible for checking -- including old cards, cards for deleted countries and cards for 160 meters.

Applications will be limited to 120 cards (more cards will be checked as time and volunteer Card Checkers are available).

Check out the ARRL Awards Web site for the latest program information and current forms <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc>>.

Inderbitzen said that a special event operating station is planned, so be sure to have a copy of your license on hand -- get in the hot seat of

W1AW/8 and get on the air! You can also meet W1AW Station Manager Joe Garcia, NJ1Q, part of the team that supports the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station at ARRL Headquarters.

The ARRL Youth Lounge in the ARRL EXPO is the place to meet and socialize with other young hams. Whether you're 1 or 21, the Youth Lounge is sure to offer something that young hams will enjoy. Come to chat with other hams, listen to music, grab a snack or participate in one of the many activities, such as fox-hunts, scavenger hunts, Morse code fun, a QSL card designing contest, crafts, prizes and more. Whether or not you're licensed, you are welcome to come by and join the fun! If you are looking for other young people at Hamvention, check out the youth calling frequencies at 145.540 MHz (107.2 Hz CTCSS) primary and 146.430 (233.6 Hz CTCSS) secondary.

If you enjoy waxing-nostalgic over the gear of yesteryear, then drop by the exhibit area to meet vintage equipment photographer Joe Veras, K9OCO. He will be autographing of his new book, "50 Years of Amateur Radio Innovation" <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=0228>>, recently published by ARRL. There are some other "vintage" surprises planned, as well, Inderbitzen said.

"If you can't make it to Dayton," Inderbitzen said, "you can still catch all the latest news on the Convention's Weblog <<http://www.arrl.org/blog>>. QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, will once again be blogging about Hamvention. Proving you can indeed go home again, Steve will regale readers with the adventures of staying with his mother at his childhood home in Dayton." For the past few years, thousands of readers have been entertained as Steve has related stories about new gear making its debut at Hamvention, the weather in Dayton and the overall feel of the event -- as well as the ever-popular antics at "Casa de Mi Madre."

The ARRL will introduce a new blog at this year's National Convention:

ARRL Youth Editor Duncan MacLachlan, KU0DM, will blog from a young ham's perspective. MacLachlan, who will be assisting former Youth Editor Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, and her father Scott, KF4PWI, in the ARRL Youth Lounge, will explore the Hamvention exhibits, forums and events, giving his first-time take on the Hamvention experience. "Duncan's youth perspective is a welcome addition to the ARRL National Convention team," Inderbitzen said. "We hope you'll explore all of Dayton's nooks and crannies through his reporting."

ARRL staff are getting ready for all the excitement that a National Convention brings. Teaming up with the Dayton Hamvention is sure to bring everything to a fever pitch, so why not make plans to join in on the fun? Travel and lodging information is available on the Hamvention Web site <<http://www.hamvention.org/travel.php>>.

Some articles courtesy of the ARRL.