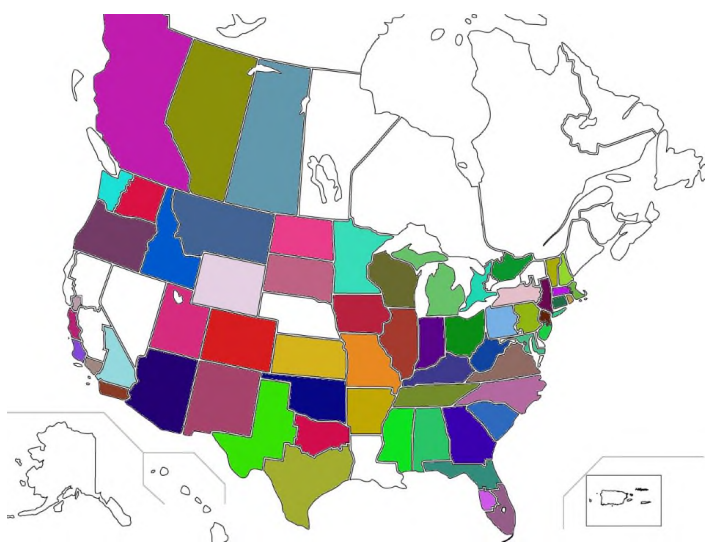


THE PLATTSMOUTH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Communicator

August 2019



Field Day 2019

Another Field Day has been successfully concluded and we also had what seems to be the usual thunderstorm that rolled through Saturday night. Some of our stats:

- 43 States
- 4 Canadian Provinces
- 104 CW
- 228 Phone
- 332 Total
- 63 Sections (out of 83)
- 872 QSO points
- 950 Bonus Points
- 3 80 Meter Contacts
- 212 40 Meter Contacts
- 89 20 Meter Contacts
- 28 15 Meter Contacts



New Chinese Amateur Radio Satellite Launched

(ARRL 07/26/2019) The spherical Chinese CAS-7B (BP-1B) Amateur Radio satellite carrying an FM transponder launched on July 25 at 0500 UTC. Signals from both the FM transponder and the telemetry beacon have been received. The satellite was launched on Hyperbola-1 from Jiuquan into a 300 kilometer, 42.7° inclination orbit.

CAS-7B is expected to have a lifetime of about a month before reentry.

The CW telemetry beacon transmits on 435.715 MHz; the V/U FM transponder downlink is 435.690 MHz (16 kHz passband), and the V/U FM transponder uplink is 145.900 MHz. Further information is available from Alan Kung, BA1DU, at CAMSAT.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/new-chinese-amateur-radio-satellite-launched>

FAA Reauthorization Act Language Serves to Exclude Vast Majority of Amateur Radio Towers

(ARRL 07/12/2019) Language in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018 will exclude all but a small number of Amateur Radio towers from marking requirements. Thanks to action taken in 2017 and 2018 by ARRL, the bill's original language was amended to the extent that amateur towers, as well as residential towers used for over-the-air TV reception, were effectively exempted from marking requirements.

The topic was addressed at the annual "Ham Radio and the Law" forum at the Dayton Hamvention® this past May. Some key points from that presentation: (1) Towers covered by the rules are structures at least 50 feet tall that support an antenna and are located in a rural area or on farmland or immediately adjacent to such land. (2) According to the Act, the term "covered tower" does not include any structure that is adjacent to a house, barn, or

(Continued on Page 3)

2019 PAID MEMBERSHIP

- AGØLSteve Loyd [E]
- AIØN..... Chuck Engberg* [E]
- KØEGG.....John 'Tim' Eggertsen [G]
- K3CRF Dave Smith [E]
- K5LBS Jerry Gault [E]
- KAØIJY Keith Keene [E]
- KBØFSI Pat McCollum [T]
- KBØLF Fred Eriksen [E]
- KBØOGO Roger Behrns* [E]
- KBØZZT George Bellairs [T]
- KCØDTK Joan Bellairs [T]
- KCØHYD John Titsworth [G]
- KCØHYE Shirley Titsworth [T]
- KDØNMD Dudley Allen [G]
- KEØBXB Kim Allen [T]
- KEØXQ Bill McCollum [E]
- KGØKR Beth Engberg* [E]
- KIØPY Kevin Faris [E]
- NØLZH John Harrington [T]
- WØDBW Derek Winterstien [G]
- WØZY Dave McLaughlin [E]
- WØZYD Debbie McLaughlin [G]
- W3DCQ Bill Pulsifer [G]

**Charter Members #New Ham*

Note: Thanks to all who have paid their dues and many who have given additional donations. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please let me know of any corrections.

Meetings are 8am the last Saturday of most months at Mom's Café in Plattsmouth.

Tuesday night get-togethers at Plattsmouth Burger King at 7 PM



P.A.R.C. Officers

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Vice President

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Repeaters:

- 443.45⁺ is located in downtown Omaha
- 443.225⁺ is located in Murray.
- 147.48 Simplex is also in Murray.

Web Site

www.kb0smx.com

Maintained by Derek (WØDBW)

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MINUTES of the MEETING

We didn't hold a formal meeting at Field Day so these are the minutes of the May meeting.

The May 25, 2019 meeting was held at Mom's Café. The meeting was called to order at 8:10 am by President Roger Behrns

Those in attendance were Roger (KBØOGO), Kevin (KIØPY), Ray (N5SEZ), Keith (KAØIJY), Gary (WØCFC), Steve (AGØL), Derek (WØDBW), and Fred (KBØLF).

The Minutes of the April meeting were approved on a motion by Kevin and second by Keith.

The treasurer reported dues and donations of \$20 and no expenses which leaves \$305 in the repeater fund and \$745.35 in the general fund for a balance of \$1050.35. The report was approved on a motion by Gary and second by Steve.

Field Day is in Murray again on June 22 & 23. Final planning is being done. Access to the tower has to be obtained. This year food is "on your own."

Steve reported that the Central Nebraska steak fry has moved from Victoria Springs to Bader Park near Chapman on July 27-28. Info is on cnarc.club.

Fred reported that the ARRL VHF contest will be the weekend of June 8-9. Info and rules are on the ARRL website under Contest Calendar.

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Gary and second by Keith at 8:27.

Meeting Calendar
 8am, Sat July 27, 2019
 8am, Sat August 31, 2019
 8am, Sat Sept. 28, 2019

PLATTSMOUTH ARC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Name		Call Sign		Class	
Address		City		State	
E-Mail		Phone #			
Spouse Name		Call Sign		Class	
Membership Type <input type="checkbox"/> Primary(\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> New Ham		● Additional donations are gratefully accepted. ● New Hams are free during the year they receive their first license. ● Please give this form and dues to the club treasurer or any club officer.		Donation for: <input type="checkbox"/> Repeater fund <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> General	
Any additional e-mail or cell phone #s?		Amount: <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer my donation to be anonymous.			

other building, and “is within the curtilage of a farmstead or adjacent to another building or visible structure.”

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, explains that, while a few Amateur Radio towers will fall under the Act’s marking requirements and will have to be registered, towers in residential yards or within farmland are specifically exempted.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/faa-reauthorization-act-language-serves-to-exclude-vast-majority-of-amateur-radio-towers>

<http://www.arrl.org/faa-tower-regulation-issues>

ARISS-Russia Planning SSTV Test Transmissions from Space Station

(ARRL 07/26/2019) ARISS-Russia has announced plans to conduct a slow-scan television (SSTV) event via RSOISS on the International Space Station. The schedule calls for transmissions on Monday, July 29, 1315 – 2125 UTC, and on Tuesday, July 30, 1350 – 1950 UTC. Other transmissions may take place through August 4. Transmissions will be on 145.800 MHz FM in SSTV mode PD120. The ISS should be available to most of the world except North America during the 2 days of SSTV transmissions. For more information, visit the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) website or the ARISS Facebook page.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/ariss-russia-planning-sstv-test-transmissions-from-space-station>

<http://www.ariss.org/>

New Raspberry Pi 4 Problem Reported with Certain USB-C Cables

(ARRL 07/25/2019) TechRepublic reports that the Raspberry Pi Foundation has confirmed that the recently released Raspberry Pi 4 will not work when powered using certain USB-C cables. The economical, single-board computer is the first Pi board to use a USB-C power connection. Pi co-creator Eben Upton has confirmed that not every USB-C cable will work. “The Pi 4 doesn’t receive power when used with electronically marked or e-marked USB-C cables — the type used by Apple MacBooks and other laptops,” the article quotes Upton as saying. “A smart charger with an e-marked cable will incorrectly identify the Raspberry Pi 4 as an audio adapter accessory, and refuse to provide power.”

Upton said he anticipates the issue will be fixed in future board revisions, but until then, Raspberry Pi 4 owners will need to use non e-marked USB-C cables — the type many smartphone chargers use — with a power supply that can deliver the 5.1 V at 3A the board needs. Another option is to purchase the official Raspberry Pi 4 power supply, which costs around \$8. Older chargers with

A-C cables or micro B-to-C adaptors will also work if they provide enough power.

“The Raspberry Pi 4 marks a significant upgrade for the Pi, introducing a new CPU and GPU, upping the Pi’s memory to 4 GB, introducing USB 3.0 for fast storage, and adding support for dual 4K displays,” the TechRepublic article noted.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/new-raspberry-pi-4-problem-reported-with-certain-usb-c-cables>

Logbook of The World Adds FT4 for Digital Worked All States (WAS) Award Endorsements

(ARRL 07/24/2019) ARRL’s Logbook of The World has been updated to embrace FT4 contacts for the Digital Worked All States award — one of many digital WAS Endorsements. This follows the WSJT-X Development Group’s July “general availability” release of WSJT-X 2.1.0. No other endorsements are under consideration at this time.

LoTW users are currently able to upload all FT4 contacts they have made. While the FT4 Digital WAS Award Endorsement functions are now active, award processing and fulfilment remain pending the availability of the new endorsement sticker. Watch ARRL News for this and other updates.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/logbook-of-the-world-adds-ft4-for-digital-worked-all-states-was-award-endorsements>

ARRL 2018 Annual Report is Now Available

(ARRL 07/23/2019) ARRL has announced the release of its 2018 Annual Report to members. The 2018 Annual Report was created by the ARRL editorial staff under the direction of QST Managing Editor, Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY. In his message to members, ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said “new generation” hams engage with Amateur Radio in a very different way than hams of his generation.

“Through extensive research, we’ve learned that they come to Amateur Radio hoping to learn how to use it in aid of their communities, and for enhancing the fun they’re already having while camping, hiking, or doing other outdoor activities,” President Roderick said. “We’ve also learned that they’ve been discouraged by the difficulty of finding information and help that would allow them to get involved.” He said ARRL has turned its attention toward those hams over the past year, and he directed readers to read about ARRL’s new Lifelong Learning Department, which, he said, “will create learning materials for Amateur Radio enthusiasts at all levels of knowledge — but especially for the beginners.”

(Continued on Page 4)

“Even as these ARRL initiatives designed for new ‘generation hams’ are getting off the ground, the Headquarters staff and Board of Directors continue to serve the valued ‘classic’ ham members that have stayed with ARRL for decades, and you’ll hear about that in this year’s Annual Report as well,” President Roderick said, pointing out that ARRL “continues to fight for our spectrum allocations and against the mounting noise floor,” among other activities and initiatives.

“I’m excited about the new ways in which the organization is preparing to fulfill its mission to advance the art, science, and enjoyment of Amateur Radio,” President Roderick concluded. “I hope you are, too.”

Chief Executive Officer Howard Michel, WB2ITX, said ARRL is at a crossroads, “and we need to look seriously at what we are and what we do. For ARRL to remain relevant to Amateur Radio, it must evolve. That evolution, while swift, can’t be haphazard.”

“We are about relationships and information. We are about creating, curating, and disseminating information about Amateur Radio,” Michel said.

The Annual Report also includes a full accounting of ARRL’s finances. “ARRL continues to be in good financial condition and has a strong financial foundation,” the Annual Report says. “This solid financial position will provide the resources to allow ARRL to evolve to meet the needs, desires, and demands of today’s and tomorrow’s radio amateur.”

Members may download and read ARRL’s 2018 Annual Report on the ARRL website. Set Adobe Reader to its 2-page viewing mode to better view the larger layout.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-2018-annual-report-is-now-available>

<http://www.arrl.org/annual-reports>

Major WSJT-X Upgrade Boosts FT4 into “a Finished Protocol for HF Contesting”

(ARRL 07/16/2019) The WSJT Development Group has announced the “general availability” release of WSJT-X version 2.1.0. This major upgrade formally introduces FT4 as a finished protocol for HF contesting. WSJT-X version 2.1.0 supplants any “release candidate” (beta) versions, and users should discontinue using any beta versions of the software. The latest edition of the popular digital software suite also includes improvements and bug fixes in several areas, including FT8. The list includes:

- FT8 waveform generated with GMSK, and fully backward compatible
- User options for waterfall and spectrum display
- Contest logging
- Rig control
- User interface

- UDP messaging for inter-program communication
- Accessibility

The WSJT-X Development Group is providing a separate WSJT-X version 2.1.0 installation package for 64-bit Windows that offers significant improvements in decoding speed.

A detailed list of program changes since WSJT-X version 2.0.1 is included in the cumulative Release Notes. Upgrading from earlier versions of WSJT-X should be seamless, with no need to uninstall a previous version or to move any files.

Installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available.

WSJT-X is licensed under the terms of Version 3 of the GNU General Public License (GPL). “Development of this software is a cooperative project to which many Amateur Radio operators have contributed,” said Joe Taylor, K1JT, for the WSJT Development Group. “If you use our code, please have the courtesy to let us know about it. If you find bugs or make improvements to the code, please report them to us in a timely fashion.”

Some users have reported a low audio level to the transmitter when using the 64-bit Windows version, which required greatly increasing the sound card Playback device used to feed audio to the transmitter.

Visit the FT8/FT4/JT9: WSJT 2-Way Narrow Modes for Amateur Radio Facebook page for additional information.

<http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/>

<http://www.arrl.org/news/major-wsjt-x-upgrade-boosts-ft4-into-a-finished-protocol-for-hf-contesting>

QST Now Listing Code Proficiency Award Recipients

(ARRL 07/09/2019) Starting with the August issue, QST will list the recipients of W1AW Code Proficiency certificates. Key manufacturer Vibroplex now is sponsoring the certificates, which debut a new design. The Code Proficiency program has been an ARRL staple for decades. Participants who copy a W1AW qualifying run and submit 1 minute of legible solid copy and the \$10 certificate fee can qualify.

Send submissions to W1AW Qualifying Run, 225 Main St, Newington, CT USA 06111. These are checked directly against the official W1AW text, and those demonstrating solid copy will receive an initial Code Proficiency certificate. Endorsement stickers, which cost \$7.50, are issued for speeds up to 40 WPM.

The W1AW Code Proficiency Program is open to hams and non-hams alike. Those seeking to attain a Code Proficiency certificate can listen to W1AW daily code practice sessions, in which the text is taken directly from QST, as announced before each practice run.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/qst-now-listing-code-proficiency-award-recipients>