

The Feedline



Fall, Winter 2010

The Feedline

Special points of interest:

- Current Wi Fi operates around 2,4 GHz with limited range
- Super Wi Fi will offer high speed internet on vacated TV frequencies
- Implementation is years away, after possible interference issues are addressed

Super Wi-Fi may be coming soon

The FCC has approved the first step in the proposed use of the recently vacated TV frequencies.

“Super Wi Fi” is said to offer true high speed internet connections to consumers not otherwise served by cable or phone line options, or who don’t want the cost of a satellite connection.

Current Wi Fi typically operates around 2.4 GHz , has limited range, and can be impeded by physical structures. The former analog TV channel frequencies are much lower and should not have such issues, thereby improving service to customers while offering increased range.

Although any implementation is years



away, the new system will determine what frequencies are unused in a given area, and operate only on those frequencies. Operation therefore could be on VHF or UHF. The unused frequencies in a given location are know as “white space.”

There have been concerns raised about possible interference from

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Poles go up at EMA

With the cooperation of Alvin Beckman, Cass County EMA Director, and local utility workers, four poles have been set in place at the Cass County EMA facility on SR 17, north of Logansport. The four poles have been strategically placed to provide support for an HF loop antenna.

The EMA building is the site for the CCARC’s club station W9VMW.



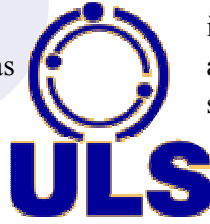
Photo by W9LVY

Do you have to post your ham license?

The paper copy of your ham license is not nearly as important as it once was.

Older amateurs remember waiting weeks for the mail to bring a newly-earned license to learn what callsign the FCC has assigned them. Then they posted the license and were legal to get on the ham bands.

But that changed with the advent of computer records at the FCC, according to Fred Maia, W5YI, in *CQ Magazine*. Fred says that what is important now is that the operator is listed in the Amateur Service database. There are no known



instances in which an amateur has been asked to show his or her operator / station license to the FCC. FCC agents go solely by the database. (It could happen that you might be asked to show your license to local police.)

You no longer even have to wait for the paper license to arrive before operating with new or upgraded privileges. You can operate once your new license appears in the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) database, which will happen fairly quickly.

The rules don't require you to do anything with the paper license.

“The FCC said there was no evidence that current spectrum was inadequate”

No expansion on 15 meter phone band

The FCC has turned down a New York ham's request to broaden the spectrum available for 15 meter phone.

Richard Eberling, K2UTC, had proposed that the portion of the band available to General Class and Amateur Extra licensees be expanded by 75 and 50 KHz respectively. This would have returned the band to what existed prior to the Commission's Incentive Licens-

ing decision in 1967. Eberling said that General Class hams were unfairly disadvantaged by that decision.

But the FCC noted that it had recently expanded spectrum available for voice communications in various amateur bands including 15 meters. The Commission said Eberling did not present sufficient evidence that current spectrum is inadequate.

Poland's first 10-meter beacon is on the air

WorldRadio is reporting that the first-ever 10-meter beacon is operating from Poland on 28.203 MHz. SR4TEN is located in the office of Poland amateurs' radio journal QTC Magazine inside grid square JO94RG.

The beacon, reportedly running 3 watts, has been heard around Europe and Great Britain.

Changes to your license

To make any changes to your Amateur Radio license like a new address, go to the FCC's licensing website.

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

Use your FCC Registration Number and your password to log in. The FRN is on your license, or available with a database search.

What does the future hold for the CCARC?

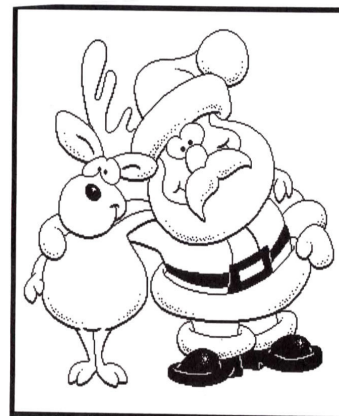
The December meeting brings with it the annual election of officers. It is also an opportunity to decide the direction of the club and what activities members should pursue.

In recent meetings, it has been noted that many members do not attend. While lack of attendance is a problem many clubs face, that doesn't seem to be an accepted excuse to active CCARC members for others to be absent.

Meeting discussions have focused on increasing meeting interest by having guest speakers, club projects, or similar

activities. What would you like to see that would make the club meetings "can't miss" events? Presentations on Echolink or IRLP? A talk on satellite communications? Perhaps a fox hunt?

We have three types of members — those that make things happen, those that watch things happen, and those that don't know what happened. Which one are you? Maybe it's time to attend a meeting. Nothing like the December meeting to become more involved. *DE K9PSR*



Merry Christmas from
The Feedline!

New DX entities named in the Caribbean

The Netherlands Antilles, which existed within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, is no more. Instead, a constitutional change will allow some of the islands to become autonomous while others will gain a lesser status.

There are six former Dutch colonies: Aruba, Curacao, Bonaire, St. Maarten, St. Eustatius, and Saba. Aruba, which had previously gained autonomy, is now

joined by St. Maarten and Curacao. The remaining islands will become municipalities.

For hams, this means new DX possibilities. The PJ callsigns have changed and are now have these assignments: PJ2 - Curacao, PJ4 - Bonaire, PJ5 - St. Eustatius, PJ6 - Saba, and PJ7 - St. Maarten.

The islands are north of Venezuela.

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Super WiFi (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Super WiFi to existing commercial broadcasters, and to groups that make and use wireless microphones. The FCC believes that proper mapping of unused frequencies in an area should prevent problems.

The FCC's plan would allow use of white space frequencies for free without seeking specific permission, like WiFi and Bluetooth are today.

Presently, there are several test markets in the U.S. operating Super WiFi.



The transition from analog to digital TV freed up enough spectrum to make Super WiFi possible. FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski predicts this technology will become just as popular as conventional WiFi.



Newsletter of the Cass
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Club Safari Guide: A. D. Venture

Dots and Dashes

Repeaters

The primary repeater operates on 147.180 MHz and is located at the Chase Park water tower with an open receiver. An additional receive site is located at the Cass County EMA building. These are accessed with a 77 HZ sub-audible tone. The VHF transmitter also transmits a 77 Hz tone. Setting your receiver to *decode* will reduce unwanted signals. A second VHF repeater also is located at the Emergency Management building and operates

on 145.230 MHz. A UHF repeater transmits on 443.650 MHz from the EMA building. All transmit offsets are standard.

Repeaters may be out of service from time to time for repairs or upgrades. The club station is W9VMW.

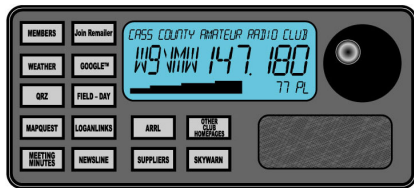
CCARC Meetings

Meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at the Cass County Emergency Management Agency building, 2 miles North of Logansport on SR 17. Dues are \$15.00 per

year. Immediate family members may join for an additional \$5.00.

Amateur License Tests

Test sessions for all classes of amateur radio licenses are offered the third Saturday of each month at approximately 10:00 AM, immediately following the club meeting. Testing is held at the Cass County EMA building, 2 miles North of Logansport on SR17. Pre-registration is preferred but not necessary. The CCARC is affiliated with The W5YI Group.



The Cass County Amateur Radio Club is an Indiana Not For Profit Corporation in continuous existence since 1953.