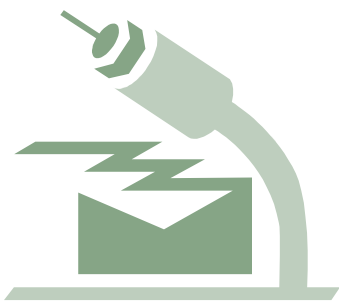


The Feedline



Summer, 2010

The Feedline

Special points of interest:

- New NPRM remove ham's restriction during government-sponsored drills.
- FCC continues to assert Amateur Radio's core principles.
- Any ham involvement is limited to the drill.
- Remember Field Day coming June 26-27.

NPRM asks for Amateur Radio rule change

As the FCC rules now read regarding Amateur Radio communications during emergencies, no ham can operate his station on behalf of his employer.

The issue came to light recently when a Missouri ham talked about his involvement in a state-wide communications drill while an employee of a hospital involved with the drill. Laura Smith, FCC attorney, raised the concern that this appeared to be in violation of Part 97, the rules governing Amateur Radio.

Now the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) that would clarify a ham's involvement in government-sponsored emergency drills. The FCC has reached the

"tentative conclusion" that an employee status should not preclude involvement in emergency activities. This would "enhance the emergency preparedness and thus serve the public interest," they say.

The Commission continues to assert that the core principle of Amateur Radio as a voluntary, non-commercial communications service without pecuniary interest. A ham's involvement in any drill would be limited to the length and scope of that drill.

A special prefix has been authorized for Mexican amateurs in 2010. "4B" will be allowed in commemoration of the bicentennial of Mexico's independence and the centennial of the Mexican revolution.

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CCARC Field Day slated for June 26 and 27

2010 Field Day will soon be here. Hamfest chairman, Tom Murray, KB9WSL, says the club hopes to operate the same number of stations as in previous years, which included covering HF, VHF / UHF on several modes including SSB and digital.

Donations of support are again being

sought from area businesses. The carry-in dinner Saturday evening will also include a raffle.



Set up will begin Friday at the EMA facility on SR 17 North of Logansport. Area officials have been invited.

Kentucky hams recycle old TV towers

Bowling Green, KY, amateurs are giving new life to old residential TV towers. The Kentucky Colonels Amateur Radio Club and 4th district Amateur Radio Emergency Services, are wanting the donated towers because many towers are unused since the advance of cable and satellite TV have made such towers obsolete. Their plan is to reuse the towers for emergency communications.

Published reports say that the club's members will visit homes for free within the ten-county Barren River Area Development District, remove the

towers, recondition them, and reinstall them at strategic locations to support emergency communications for hams, hospitals, and various county emergency agencies.

Club member Bill Schlicht, KJ4DGW, told the *Bowling Green Daily News* that his group "wants to set up at least 16 towers, mainly at area hospitals where hams can communicate with emergency workers during a large-scale disaster."

Schlicht says there are about 400 amateur radio operators in the Bowling Green, KY, area

LORAN C guided ships and planes for 60 years until made obsolete by GPS.

LORAN C ceases operation earlier this year

LORAN C, the very low frequency **L**ong **R**ange Navigation system that has guided ships and planes for 60 years has been shut down by the U. S. Coast Guard. It was cited as obsolete since virtually all ships, planes, and many land vehicles carry Global Positioning Systems (GPS) on board.

LORAN C operated on frequencies



between 90 and 110 KHz and was used by several European countries and Japan, besides the United States. LORAN C receivers compare the signals received from three different transmitters to determine the receiver's location within a quarter of a mile.

The elimination of the program will save millions of taxpayer dollars.

Iceland grants experimental access on 600 meters

It could be an ultimate DX receiving possibility. The Post and Telecom Administration in Iceland has granted experimental access on a temporary basis to Icelandic hams who may wish to apply for it. Power will be limited to 100 watts, CW mode only, on frequencies between 493 and 510 KHz.



have applied to operate, according to the IRA website.

Although reception here is a remote possibility, hams in nearby countries are optimistic that contacts will be possible despite some other countries' limits on power and frequency range.

Permits issued will expire at the end of this year.

Petitioner denied blanket AM BC power increase

The FCC has denied a New Jersey-based radio consultant's petition to allow daytime AM radio broadcasters to increase their power by up to ten times. Richard Arsenault argued that the AM radio service suffers serious degradation from interference by new technologies like broadband over power lines, microwave ovens and other appliances, and solid state switching fluorescent lights.

"What we have now is AM broadcast stations adequately protecting each other but these same stations are not receiving protection from intense electromagnetic interference from uninten-

tional sources," Arsenault said. He added that increasing daytime power would solidify coverage without altering the interference ratios between stations.

Arsenault had also proposed allowing AM daytimers operating on regional channels to begin pre-sunrise daytime operation as early as 5AM. He says that currently these stations are at a competitive disadvantage since "morning drive" typically begins at 5:00 or 5:30 and these stations can not sign on until 6:00 AM.



(From DX News & AR Newsline)

The easy way to copy Morse Code?

Don't want to learn Morse code? Then here is the web site made for you! Go to

<http://morsecode.scphillips.com/jtranslator.html>

Here one can enter any sequence of letter, numbers and punctuation, click a button, and hear it played in Morse code. Are you hearing code but not proficient enough to copy it? Just enter

the dots and dashes (using the period and hyphen symbols, and space between letters) then click "translate." You will see the code converted to English.

The user can control the speed, volume and pitch of the sounds.

(From DX News)

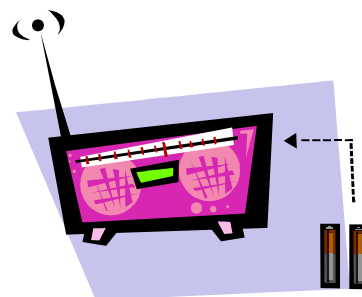
This web site will convert text to Morse code and Morse code to text.

HD radios going portable

Sangean has revealed that it will release an AM and FM portable HD radio later this year. The model DT-800 will be the first radio of its kind to provide HD reception of both FM and AM signals.

Before now, manufacturers have resisted including analog or digital AM in portable radios due to the difficulty of achieving good reception with a small antenna. The DT-800 uses an ear bud wire plus a monopole to get AM reception. The multicast capable unit sup-

ports associated data services from the HD signals.



A price for the pocket-size radio has not been announced, but the question remains as to whether enough HD signals can be logged here to be worth it, regardless of the cost.



Newsletter of the Cass
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Lick 'em, Stick 'em Specialist: Dave Wandrei, N9WCQ

Web Site Overseer: Brandon DeLorenzo, KC9LVB

Club Brain Specialist: Sara Bellum, MD

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.