

Q5

By and for the Downey Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



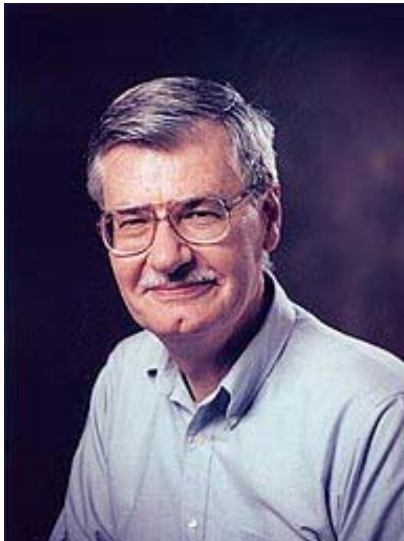
Volume XXI Number 9

Our 51st Year

September 2002

ANNUAL ARRL NIGHT AT DARC

Don't miss the next meeting on Thursday September 5th. Our guest speaker will be **Art Goddard**, W6XD, ARRL Southwest Division Director who will speak about the ARRL and current issues impacting amateur radio. There will be ample time for questions and answers during and after his presentations. This meeting is a great opportunity to really find out what's happening in ham radio.



Mr. Goddard was hooked on amateur radio when he was in high school, and earned his novice Amateur Radio license in 1956. He worked his way up to Extra class. His radio activities include HF/VHF, DX, contests, satellites and digital communications. He has traveled in numerous foreign

countries. Equipped with his camera, Art captures the DXpedition spirit to share with fellow amateurs at club meetings and conventions. He holds degrees in Electrical Engineering and Engineering Management and has worked for North American Aviation, the Collins division of Rockwell International, and, finally, Boeing. Now he is a consultant in electronics systems, retired from Boeing. Art is a life member of ARRL, currently serving as Director of the Southwestern Division. He is actively involved in representing and promoting Amateur Radio throughout the region



ARRL is the national membership association for Amateur Radio operators. The American Radio Relay League was founded in 1914. The 172,000-members strong league is a microcosm of the Amateur Radio community, not only reflecting a commitment to the many enthusiasms of hams, but also providing leadership as the official voice of Amateur Radio, whether in dealings with the Federal Communications Commission, the World Administrative Radio Conference, the International Amateur Radio Union, or with the general public. Indeed, many of the most knowledgeable hams believe that, as competition grows for increasingly scarce radio spectrum, the future of The League is the future of Amateur Radio.

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DARC to Begin Nominations for Club Officers for 2003

It's that time of year again. The Downey Amateur Radio Club will be seeking members to fill the Club Officer Positions. If you have never held an office with DARC, here's your chance to give it a try! And if you have held an office in the past, there's nothing quite as good as the second (or third, or ...) time around!

Nomination of candidates for Club Officer Positions will be made by a nominating committee appointed by the President and announced at the September meeting. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor from full members at either the September or October meetings. Those names submitted at the September meeting will be placed on the ballot with provision for write-in of October nominees. Voting will take place at the October meeting and election shall be a majority vote of the full members present.

September Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Cafetorium at Sussman Middle School, 12500 Birchdale Ave., in Downey, beginning at 7:30 PM, Thursday, **September 5, 2002**

**THE DOWNEY
AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB, INC.**
P.O. Box 207
Downey, CA 90241



<http://www.DowneyARC.org>

Affiliations

Affiliated ARRL Club
ARRL Special Service Club
Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs
Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Organizations

Frequencies

Simplex & Phone Patch: 145.595 MHz
2-Meter Repeater: 146.175+ no pl*
440 Repeater: 445.640 (-) PL 156.7 Hz*
* See Calendar for Net Skeds

Club Officers

President

Dave Glenn, N6TEB
Phone: (562) 928-8560
dglenn@connect3.com

First Vice President

Frank Hornberger, N6ZDS
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VP Programs

Bill Heather, KB6WKT
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VP Membership

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VP Service

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VP Ways and Means

Ray Fas, KD6GRM
Phone: (562) 861-6651
jandrfas@earthlink.net

Director (One Year)

Steve Grudzinski, AD6HT
Phone: (626) 336-3974
ad6ht@arrl.net

Director (Two Year)

Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV
Phone: (562) 861-3085
k6tv@compuserve.com

Secretary

Paul Metzger, KQ6EH
Phone: (562) 928-4332
paulmetzger@ieee.org

Treasurer

Jon Olesen, KD6HXP
Phone: (323) 728-5796
au186@lafn.org

Trustee, W6TOI

Tom VanBuskirk, K6TV
Phone: (562) 861-3085
k6tv@compuserve.com

VE Exams

The Downey Amateur Radio Club provides VE examinations for all classes of Amateur Radio licenses on the third Saturday of each even-numbered month. Exams are held at the Downey Fire Department Headquarters, 1222 Paramount Boulevard, beginning at 8:30 AM. The exam schedule for the remainder of 2002 is as follows:

Oct 19 Dec 21

The ARRL/VEC test fee is \$10.00 for all tests. The fee is controlled by the FCC but goes to the ARRL to cover their expenses in providing the tests and handling the applications. Those planning to take tests are asked to contact **Wes Printz**, W3SE, at (562) 923-5598, or wprintz@ix.netcom.com prior to the test. This contact is appreciated but not mandatory. After the test session please wait 10 days before contacting the ARRL at (860) 594-0300 or <http://www.qsl.net/w3se> for new license information. Please do not call the FCC directly.

DARC Badges

DARC name badges are available for \$4.00, payable on order. Give your name and call sign to **Ray Fas**, KD6GRM. Previously ordered badges may be picked up at the Club general meeting.

Club Cups, Caps Shirts and Jackets

Item	On Hand?	Price	Pay
Caps	Yes	8.00	On Order
Jackets	Yes	25.00	On Order
T-shirts	Most Sizes	10.00	On Order
Polo Shirts	Most Sizes	16.00	On Order
Coffee Mugs	Yes	3.00	On Order

Contact **Ray Fas**, KD6GRM, at any meeting or at (562) 861-6651

Saturday Breakfast Location

Many DARC Club members meet for breakfast each Saturday morning at 7:00 AM at the Nordic Fox Restaurant, 10924 S. Paramount Blvd., in Downey (1/2 mile south of Florence Ave.) The restaurant reserves an area for DARC and offers good food at reasonable prices. See you there!

Permission to copy material from the Q5 is granted provided that credit is given to the "DARC Q5".

September Birthdays

The officers of the Downey Amateur Radio Club join the members of the Q5 staff in wishing each of the following a very happy birthday.

N6RKH	Robert Filter	2
KB6YEM	James Weaver	4
KK6K	Carl Massell	5
KF6YOL	Charmaine Smith	7
KE6ZYG	Margo Hoffman	14
KF6UQJ	Tsioutsias Nickolaos	14
KF6JGZ	Stan Ross	15
KD6HXP	Jon Olesen	16
KG6LCO	Monica Hornburger	18
KC6IIR	Rory Richardson	18
N6UA	John Marthens	20
ASC	Rose Shand	21

Check out the Downey Amateur Radio Club **World Wide Web** site. It has more than just the articles from this news letter. See color photographs, special features not included in the Q5, and links to other Ham Radio related sites.

<http://www.DowneyARC.org>

DOWNEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SERVING THE DOWNEY AREA
SINCE 1951

DARC Annual Membership

Single: \$20 Associate: \$10
Maximum for Family: \$35

Make checks payable to "DARC",
Send to: **DARC Membership**
1400 Masser Place
Montebello, CA 90640
Include your name(s), callsign(s),
Address, and phone number

Q5 Staff

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Chuck Anna, KE6TBC
Clem Patocka, KB6ACJ

President's Message

There is no President's message this month



DARC General Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2002

President **Dave Glenn**, N6TEB, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the Cafetorium of Sussman Middle School. He then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the July General Meeting and the Treasurers Report as they appeared in the Q5 were approved.

Ray Fas, KD6GRM, V.P. – Ways and Means announced the new Club hats will be available for purchase beginning with next months General Meeting at a cost of \$8.00 each. He also reported that the Club yard sale would take place on September 28 at **Bill Heather's**, KB6WKT, house in Norwalk. He asked the membership to begin gathering items for the sale, requested anyone with a pickup truck help with transportation and asked for people to help on the day of the sale.

Doug Lyon, N6WZI, related a recent visit to Washington State where his daughter **Elizabeth**, KC6OFS, gave him what she described as a "high-tech" ice cream scoop. He also depicted (to considerable laughter from the attendees) his experience with airport security as he tried to explain its function to the officers. As this meeting was an ice cream social, he thought it was an appropriate time to bring it.

The meeting adjourned for ice cream and to look at the various projects some of the members had brought.

At 8:25 PM, the meeting resumed with an announcement by Dave, N6TEB, that two items listed in the Q5 for the Silent Key sale were reversed: The MFJ 986 is the tuner and the MFJ 9020 is the QRP transmitter.

The attendance drawing was held and **Glenn Allen**, KE6HPZ, was not present so the prize rises to \$45 next month.

(Continued on page 6)

WANTED: Merchandise for DARC YARD SALE

The annual DARC yard sale will be held on Saturday, September 28 at the QTH of **Bill Heather**, KB6WKT. This is the single most important event in our fund-raising efforts each year, and we are counting on YOU to donate your unwanted clothing, household items, and other sellable goods so that we can continue to support our club activities such as Field Day, the annual picnic, and the many public service events that we participate in. Please set aside your used goods and let me know by phone or by email that you have items available to donate, and we will arrange a time for you to drop the merchandise off at the yard sale site. If you have items that are too large for you to transport in your vehicle, please let me know that as well so we can arrange for someone to pick them up.

In addition to merchandise, we will need volunteers to assist with setup on Friday night, working the sale on Saturday morning and afternoon, and cleanup at the end of the day. We are also in need of volunteers with pickup trucks who can assist with transporting some of the larger items to the site. I will have a sign-up sheet at the September general meeting.

I look forward to seeing all of you on the 28th!

-KD6GRM

The New Club Hats Have Arrived

DARC members will soon be sporting a new look. Our new Club hats have arrived, and they look terrific! They feature solid cotton twill construction (no more mesh in the back!), offering better comfort and sun protection than our old hats. They are khaki with a royal blue bill, and our official DARC logo is embroidered (not screen printed!) on the front in royal blue and red.



I will have them available for purchase at the September meeting. If you are unable to attend the general meeting, you may also purchase hats by calling or emailing me. The price is only \$8 each, so get yours while they last!

-KD6GRM

DARC Board of Directors Meeting, August 6, 2002.

Frank Hornberger, N6ZDS, 1st Vice President called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM at Downey Fire Station #1. Other Board members present were **Jon Olesen**, KD6HXP, Treasurer; **Bill Heather**, KB6WKT, VP-Programs; **Ann Wright**, KF6UEA, VP-Membership; **Dave Buhler**, WB6ZGF, VP-Service; **Ray Fas**, KD6GRM, VP-Ways and Means; **Steve Grudzinski**, AD6HT, Director, One Year and **Tom VanBuskirk**, K6TV, Director, Two Years. Absent were **Dave Glenn**, N6TEB, President and **Paul Metzger**, KQ6EH, Secretary.

Officer's reports:

1st Vice President: Frank reported that our President is in Mammoth, Oregon on vacation.

Treasurer: Jon reported he had modified the Treasurers Report to reflect the closing of the savings account. He noted the Treasury balance is down to approximately \$2251 and hoped the yard sale would boost it. It was noted that the majority of memberships will renew in October and November and that will help also.

VP-Programs: Bill reported the September program will be ARRL night with Art Goddard and October is open at this time. He also needs a speaker for the annual luncheon and mentioned Joe Moell, K0OV, as a possible candidate. With the Boards approval, he will contact Joe.

VP-Membership: Ann reported she

continues to issue the membership cards.

VP-Service: Dave reported on recent events inside the Downey Chamber of Commerce which may impact our support of the Downey Holiday Lane Parade. He will update the Board as necessary.

VP Ways and Means: Ray, KD6GRM, reported the new Club hats have been ordered and that the one-time digitizing fee was reduced from \$75 to \$35.

Director, One Year: Steve reminded the Board that all articles for the Q5 **MUST** be in by the deadline (usually the Friday following the Board meeting) or they will not appear in the next issue.

Director, Two Years: Tom reported he had contacted Paul, KQ6EH, regarding the minutes of the meetings. He will make an effort to rectify the situation.

Planning Calendar: The next major item is the yard sale on September 28.

Old Business:

Refreshments: We still do not have any volunteers for this. Bill will provide refreshments for the September meeting.

ARRL Convention representative: Discussion regarding e-mails between Bill and Larry Vaughn, KD6NZW, regarding what responsibility to take on at the Convention. Due to our limited

membership, whatever task we accept needs to be relatively small. Following discussion Dave said that, since he made the initial contact with Larry, he will follow up and tell him of the Boards request for a smaller responsibility.

New Business:

Club domain name: This item will have to wait until Dave, N6TEB, returns.

Nomination Committee: Status of this item is unknown until Dave's return.

Annual Luncheon: Bill reported he had spoken with the night manager of Granatas recently but will speak with the general manager about returning there.

Autopatch: Ann questioned whether the autopatch is down since she has been having trouble accessing it. Frank will follow up with **Buck Kerns**, AE6DT, since the box is at his location.

Q5 advertising: Steve related a conversation he had with Janet at HRO regarding advertising in the Q5 in exchange for offering discounts to Club members. Following discussion the Board agreed to accept such an ad as well as traditional paid advertising.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF
Substitute Secretary

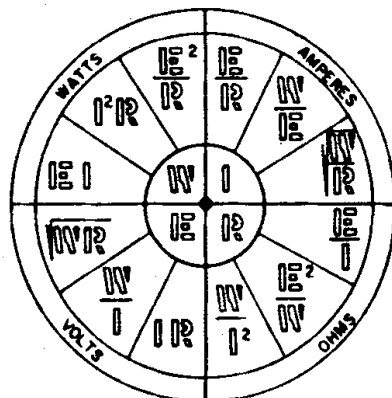
Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Sat. 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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Fax: (714) 521-8920

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Electronic Parts Distributor
Wholesale * Industrial * Commercial
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Email: sales@fordel.com



OHMS LAW

Do you have an idea for an article for the Q5? Remember guys, this is OUR newsletter, about OUR hobby. If you would like to submit an article to the Q5—please forward it to **Ginny Grudzinski**, AJ6CW (see page 2 for email address).

DARC Board of Directors Meeting, July 16, 2002.

Dave Glenn, N6TEB, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM at Downey Fire Station #1. Other Board members present were **Frank Hornberger**, N6ZDS, 1st Vice President; **Jon Olesen**, KD6HXP, Treasurer; **Bill Heather**, KB6WKT, VP-Programs; **Dave Buhler**, WB6ZGF, VP-Service; **Ray Fas**, KD6GRM, VP-Ways and Means; **Steve Grudzinski**, AD6HT, Director, One Year and **Tom VanBuskirk**, K6TV, Director, Two Years. Absent were **Paul Metzger**, KQ6EH, Secretary and **Ann Wright**, KF6UEA, VP-Membership

Also present were Jim Acosta and Angel Martinez.

Officer's reports:

President: Dave, N6TEB, noted that the program at the last General Meeting was somewhat last minute but was received well.

1st Vice President: Frank, N6ZDS, had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Jon, KD6HXP, had nothing to report.

VP-Programs: Bill reported the August meeting would be our annual Ice Cream Social, other details to be announced. The September meeting will be, as is customary, ARRL night. Other meeting programs, including the Annual Luncheon, are in progress.

VP Service: Dave, WB6ZGF, reported the next public service event would be the Hawaiian Festival in Lawndale. **Buck Kerns**, AE6DT, can still use some operators, especially on Sunday.

VP Ways and Means: Ray, KD6GRM, asked the Board for suggestions on when to hold our Yard Sale. After discussion of various availabilities, the Board agreed on September 28, 2002 at Bill's QTH. Bill will obtain the sale permit from the City of Norwalk but added that he would like to have an organization already lined up to take any left over items so he will not have to store them. The Board agreed to this stipulation.

Director, One Year: Steve reminded the Board that the deadline for articles for the Q5 is this Saturday, July 20. The deadline was pushed back one week

since the General Meeting was moved to the second Thursday due to the July 4 holiday.

Director, Two Years: Tom deferred to new business.

The minutes of the Board meeting on June 11, 2002 as they appeared in the Q5 were approved.

Old Business:

Refreshments: We are still in need of people to bring refreshments to the General Meetings. Dave, N6TEB, will bring the ice cream for August.

BOD and General Meeting minutes: The minutes of these meetings are still not forthcoming. Other members have been filling in. Tom and Bill will make the necessary contacts and report back to the Board.

ARRL Convention representative: Several possibilities were suggested. Dave, WB6ZGF, will call and report back. We also need to pick a responsibility for the Club to perform at the convention.

New Club hats: Ray reported the response at the General Meeting to the new hat colors was very positive and unanimously preferred the model with the fabric strap in the back. He explained that in addition to the cost of the hats there would be a one time digitizing fee of \$75.

It was noted that the cost for six dozen will be \$489 which is \$89 over the Club merchandise budget and would, therefore, require Board approval. Motion by Frank, seconded by Bill authorizing Ray to purchase a quantity of six-dozen new Club hats. Motion approved.

Since the new hats are more expensive, Ray suggested the Board modify our long standing policy of giving a free Club hat to all new members, replacing it with a free Club name badge. Motion by Bill, seconded by Frank to modify the policy. Following discussion, the motion was approved.

Dave, N6TEB, received a notice to

renew our Internet domain name, www.downeyarc.org. The name will be renewed at a cost of \$60 for a four-year period.

At this point Dave, N6TEB, had to leave the meeting for family business and the Chair was assumed by Frank, N6ZDS.

New Business:

Annual Luncheon: The Board considered the previous venue, Granada's. It was generally agreed the food was good but the service needed improvement. Also, the room was very cramped. However, it was pointed out that they had only been in that location for a short while and could have improved with time. We need to move on that issue and also line up a speaker for the day.

License Training Video Tapes: Tom asked the Board to consider the amount of the refundable deposit for the rental of the tapes which now stands at \$150. Even though the renter will receive the deposit back upon return of the tapes, he thinks it may be restricting the number of prospective hams who may benefit. Following discussion of the issue, which included a suggestion to better publicize the tapes' availability, a motion was made by Tom, seconded by Jon, to reduce the deposit to \$30 which will cover the cost of replacement. Motion approved.

Club Anniversary Special Event QSL's: Tom reported QSL's are still trickling in but a deadline needs to be set for answering with a special certificate. Following discussion the Board agreed that the cutoff for certificates is as of this date. Tom will continue to respond to any additional cards with Club QSL's only.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF
Substitute Secretary

Treasurer's Report July 2002

(Continued from page 3)

DARC General Meeting Continued

SUMMARY

Bank Balance as of 6/30/2002 \$2,724.03
 Income \$397.00
 Expenditures (\$606.99)

Bank Balance as of 7/31/2002 \$2,514.04
 Raffle Holding Fund \$559.06

INCOME	This Month	Year to Date	Annual Budget	(Over) Under Budget
Club Merchandise	30.00	65.00	315.00	250.00
DARC Dues	185.00	780.00	2100.00	1320.00
Interest on Savings		11.03	40.00	28.97
Luncheon Reserv.		0.00	800.00	800.00
Misc Income	182.00	1823.75	1580.00	(243.75)
Fund Raisers		0.00	800.00	800.00
Totals	397.00	2,679.78	5,635.00	2,955.22

EXPENDITURES

	This Month	Year to Date	Annual Budget	(Over) Under Budget
Attend. Prizes		0.00	55.00	55.00
Autopatch, Rptr.	35.70	142.71	240.00	97.29
Club Merchandise			400.00	400.00
Club Bulletin				
Printing	141.60	931.60	1500.00	565.40
Supplies		8.65	20.00	11.35
Postage	78.50	341.80	650.00	308.20
Committees				
Awards		0.00	75.00	75.00
Education		332.92	30.00	(302.92)
Membership		26.91	50.00	23.09
Pub & Pub Rel		0.00	25.00	25.00
Sunshine		46.56	50.00	3.44
Equip Maint.		100.00	150.00	50.00
Events				
Christmas Party		0.00	25.00	25.00
Field Day	240.56	340.56	400.00	59.44
Luncheon		0.00	800.00	800.00
Picnic		0.00	50.00	50.00
Fund Raisers		0.00	50.00	50.00
Other Events		558.75	20.00	(538.75)
Insurance		0.00	400.00	400.00
Misc. Expenses	45.63	772.25	0.00	(762.25)
Officers Expenses				
President		0.00	25.00	25.00
Secretary		0.00	25.00	25.00
Treasurer		3.24	25.00	21.76
Other Organizations				
Dues		0.00	20.00	20.00
RHARC Repeater		0.00	200.00	200.00
PO Box		80.00	65.00	(15.00)
Refreshments		0.00	200.00	200.00
Stationary, Copies		0.00	20.00	20.00
World Radio Listing	65.00	65.00	65.00	0.00
Totals	\$606.99	\$3,743.95	\$5,635.00	\$1,891.05

Misc. Expenses \$754.25 Raffle, WM Service Charge \$8.00

Jon Olesen, KD6HXP
Treasurer

Ray, KD6GRM, introduced his wife, Jennifer, as a guest and **Ann Wright**, KF6UEA, V.P. – Membership introduced guest Tommy Cuttler.

The raffle was conducted with the following winners: **Frank Tillmann**, KN6LM, an antenna book; **Charles Goodwill**, Asc., a flashlight set; **Robert Wells**, KF6ZQH, a screwdriver set; **Ed Roos**, KC6ZHY, a halogen light and **Art Varney**, WA6OZQ, a one year subscription to WorldRadio.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Buhler, WB6ZGF
Substitute Secretary

ARRL Welcomes New Staff Members

ARRL this week welcomed **Chuck Skolaut**, K0BOG, as the newest member of the Headquarters staff. Skolaut joined ARRL Field and Educational Services July 30 as a field and regulatory correspondent. He'll be working with the Amateur Auxiliary to the FCC and the ARRL Official Observer program as well as assisting with field organization and regulatory information matters.

"Amateur Radio has played an important part of my life," says Skolaut, 59, who came to ARRL Headquarters from Great Bend, Kansas, after a career in television broadcasting.

As a part of the Field Organization/Public Service Team, Skolaut will work closely with Team Leader **Steve Ewald**, WV1X, and with Regulatory Information Branch Correspondent **John Hennessee**, N1KB.

Also new to Field and Educational Services is **Jerry Ellis**, WS1K. A native of Long Island, New York, Ellis, 57, came aboard in late May as ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) Program Assistant, working under ARRL C-CE Program Coordinator **Dan Miller**, K3UFG.

Ellis says he considers it an honor to be working at ARRL Headquarters. "Employment with ARRL is a milestone in my life, and I really respect the privilege of contributing to Amateur Radio through my employment here," he said.

-Extracted from the ARRL Letter, Vol 21, No 30

September PROPAGATION OUTLOOK - DX NOTES by Mike Gauthier, K6ICS

Sunspots keep growing and growing, and one wonders if the peak of the solar cycle has really passed. With sunspot numbers over 300 during August, it seems like a three peak cycle. The sunspot number for August 3, 2002 was 323, the highest number since March 2001.

The average daily sunspot number for all of July was 183.5. This is much higher than June, which was 146, but not as high as May's average, at 204.1. Average daily solar flux for July was 174.4, higher than then 148.7 for June and around the same as May's 178.4.

"MUF's rise very SLOWLY during summer. This means the Low Bands may stay open to the West quite a bit longer past sunrise.

This means the High Bands will open LATER than usual and stay open later than usual.

20-meters is better at night due to lower absorption than during daylight hours.

17-meters offers EXCELLENT worldwide propagation during summer, often both during day and night.

15-meters is open to JA/Asia in our mornings and to Europe in our afternoons.

12-meters offers some surprising nighttime openings during summer, mimicking 15-meters more closely than 10-meters. Often the MUF seems to ride just above 25 MHz.

10-meters may be quite marginal, es-

pecially on polar and near polar paths. Summertime MUFs peak around 20 to 30 MHz at high sunspot levels, and 18 to 24 MHz during low sunspot levels, depending on path and time.

DX Action

Fiji 3D2VS, Sep 06-Sep 11, By J28VS; HF; SSB; QSL OK via REF Buro or direct

Gambia C56/G4IRN, Sep 06-Sep 13, By G4IRN, mainly CW, 80-10m; 100W; wire antennas; QSL: 31 Greenwood Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey, KT7 0DU, England-UK.

Liechtenstein HB0/DK0CN, Sep 14-Sep 15, By DJ7BA DL1MTM DL1MTV DL3MHB DL5MDM, SSB

Lord Howe Island VK9YL, Sep 15-Sep 29, By VE7YL VK4SJ JR3MVF VK3DYL fm OC-004; QSL OK via VK3 Buro or direct: Gwen Tilson, 3 Gould Court, Mt. Waverley, Victoria 3149, Australia

Malawi 7Q7CE, Sep 22-Oct 08, By IN3VZE; QSL OK via ARI Buro or direct: Ely Camin, C.so 3 Novembre 136/2, 38100 Trento, Italy

Malta 9H9PA, Sep 16-Oct 06, By PA group; 40-6m (perhaps 80 160m); all modes; also QRV w/personal calls (QSL via home call)

Market Reef OJ0LA, Aug 31-Sep 07, By LA5UKA LA6YEA LA8SDA LA9VDA; 160-10m; CW SSB, some RTTY; QSL OK via Buro or direct (SAE + 1 IRC or US\$2); also OJ0RJ via OH0RJ, OJ0/LB1NE via CBA

Micronesia V63VB, Sep 14-Sep 23, By W7AVA fm Pohnpei (OC-010)

Rotuma 3D2VS/p, Aug 30-Sep 05, HF; SSB; QSL OK via REF Buro or direct

CONTESTS

All Asian DX Contest, SSB, 0000Z, Sep 7 to 2400Z, Sep 8
IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB, 1300Z, Sep 7 to 1300Z, Sep 8
WAE DX Contest, SSB, 0000Z, Sep 14 to 2359Z, Sep 15
Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW, 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 22
Panama Anniversary Contest, 1200Z-2359Z, Sep 22
CQ/RJ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY, 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 29
Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB, 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 29

DARC Members DXCC count:

WA6RTA 326 Phone (AM & SSB)
KB6ATT 305 Mixed, 60 CW KK6T 297 Mixed, 264 CW, 235 SSB, 137 RTTY, 80 Meters 100
K6ICS 295 Mixed, 288 Phone (AM & SSB), 40 Meters 164 Mixed
KK6K 250 Phone, 200 CW
N6WZI 10 Meters 198 Phone
K6TV 185 SSB, 46 CW, 85 QRP
KE6ARF/Mobile 142 SSB
WA6OUD 10 meters 129 Phone
W6TOI 102 Mixed
KQ6EH 30 Meters 57 CW

I am interested in receiving DX reports for this column, one contact or many. Call me- Days 562-923-1837, evenings 562-923-0131. 24 hour FAX 562-923-3609. Internet e-mail: k6ics@catns.net or my website www.catalina-inter.net/mgauthier

Check That Polarity! By Steve Grudzinski. AD6HT

There is quite a price to pay for assumption! Recently, after modifying my Kenwood TR-9130 2 meter all mode for a low power output, I grabbed a DC power cable from what I assumed was another Kenwood radio, and headed over to the QTH of **Glenn Allen**, KE6HPZ. We were going to test RF power levels so I powered up the rig; lamps lit, but no display. A few moments later the tell tale indication reached our noses, and I knew something was not right, so power was removed immediately! Too Late. As Murphy would have it the cable I grabbed was from my Yeasu radio, and although they use the same connector, the polarity was not the same. Fortunately only two components were damaged, one of which I could replace immediately, but the second required a two week delivery time.

So, remember what they say about assumption... if you don't know, ask me at the next meeting.

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT TRAINING TO START SEPTEMBER 1

Amateur Radio emergency communications training supported by a \$181,900 federal homeland security grant will begin within a few weeks instead of next year as reported initially. During its first year, the grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) special volunteer program will reimburse the cost of Level I ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course training for up to 1700 volunteers.

The CNCS has accepted ARRL's proposal to commence the expanded emergency training program September 1. The League was among several dozen nonprofit organizations designated to receive some \$10.3 million in federal money to boost homeland defense volunteer programs.

Dan Miller, K3UFG, ARRL's Emergency Course Manager says that since the July 18 grant announcement, interest in the subsidized training has been high. He urged those eager to participate to stand by for announcements via the ARRL Web and other League news outlets. The first priority when the grant-supported training effort kicks into gear in September will be to recruit and train at least 200 Amateur Radio Emergency Communications course mentors/trainers. These volunteers then will help to manage and train the student load for the first year of the grant.

To comply with grant requirements, the ARRL also will survey served agencies and certain segments of the amateur population, ARRL Chief of Development, **Mary Hobart**, K1MMH, said. The League wants to ensure that the course offered accurately represents "what really happens in the field" during an emergency or disaster, she said.

Once the ARRL mentors have completed the program, registration for routine Level I training will open October 1, initially for ARRL field appointees. Miller anticipates that the program will continue to handle approximately 200 students per month. "As much as we'd like to, we can't train everyone at once," he said. "Please be patient."

Students taking advantage of Level I emergency communications training under the grant program will be asked to pay for the course via credit card during the registration process. Upon successfully completing the training and certification, students will be reimbursed the \$45 fee. Miller said the goal is to dramatically improve the course completion rate from the current 68 percent to nearly 100 percent.

Hobart emphasized that community involvement is key. "It's not enough to just finish the course," she said. "You're expected to join and take part in your local Amateur Radio Emergency Service organization."

-Extracted from the ARRL Letter, Vol 21, No 32

Proposal Filed To Allow European/UK FRS-Type Radios On 70 CM

An amateur from Virginia has petitioned the FCC to allocate eight channels in the 70-cm band for use by visitors from Europe and the United Kingdom with Personal Mobile Radio (PMR 446) transceivers. The recently authorized PMR 446 is similar to the US Family Radio Service. **Dr Michael Trahos**, KB4PGC, a physician from Alexandria, filed the petition last January, saying it would help to promote international goodwill. The FCC on August 8 designated the petition as RM-10521 and invited comments on the proposal within 30 days.

A General-class licensee, Trahos wants the FCC to amend its Amateur Service "and/or" Family Radio Service rules to allow "visiting/transient/tourist non-amateur non-United States resident foreign nationals" unlicensed access to certain frequencies between 446.0 and 446.1 MHz. He proposed to permit operation at up to 0.5 W PEP output. The ARRL band plan for 70 cm designates 446.0 MHz as a national calling channel. Other frequencies in the segment are for simplex or repeater use.

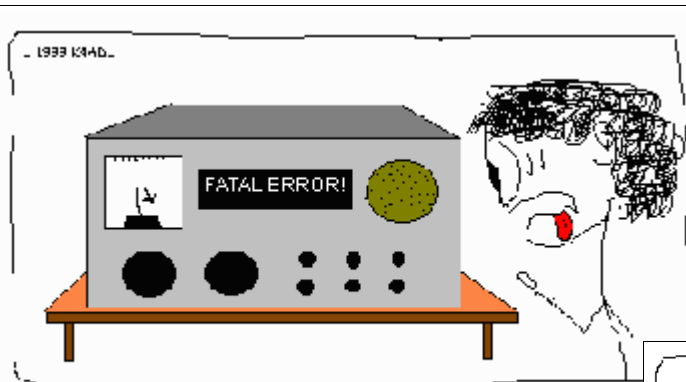
In his petition, Trahos said existing Part 97 Amateur Service rules precluding the use of PMR 446 radios in the US "are essentially unenforceable" and that granting his petition would have minimal impact on existing amateur operations. "As such, Amateur Radio community oppositions to this petition, though respected, would be misplaced and not in the international public interest or good will," he asserted.

As of August 15, two comments had been filed on RM-10521 by amateur licensees. Both opposed Trahos' petition, citing the potential for interference to amateur operations. Comments on RM-10521 are due by September 6 and may be filed via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. To view the Trahos petition and filed comments, click on "Search for Filed Comments." To file comments, click on "Submit a Filing." Enter "RM-10521" (the ECFS is case-sensitive) in the "Proceeding" field of either form.

-Extracted from the ARRL Letter, Vol 21, No 32

September 2002 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Labor Day No Net</i>	3 <i>7:00 PM 440 Net on 445.640- pl 156.7</i>	4	5 <i>7:30 PM General Meeting</i>	6	7 <i>7:00 AM Club Breakfast</i>
8	9 <i>7:15 PM Downey DCS Net</i>	10 <i>7:00 PM 440 Net on 445.640- pl 156.7</i> <i>7:30 PM Board Meeting</i>	11	12 <i>7:30 PM 2m Net on 146.175+ N6TEB</i>	13 <i>Q5 Deadline. Please Have your articles in on Time</i>	14 <i>7:00 AM Club Breakfast</i> <i>ARRL VHF QSO Party—Starts 11 AM</i>
15 <i>ARRL VHF QSO Party—Ends 8 PM</i>	16 <i>7:15 PM Downey DCS Net</i>	17 <i>7:00 PM 440 Net on 445.640- pl 156.7</i>	18	19 <i>7:30 PM 2m Net on 146.175+ AD6HT</i>	20	21 <i>7:00 AM Club Breakfast</i> <i>ARRL 10 GHz & up Starts 6 AM</i>
22 <i>ARRL 10 GHz & up Ends 12 PM</i>	23 <i>7:15 PM Downey DCS Net</i>	24 <i>7:00 PM 440 Net on 445.640- pl 156.7</i>	25	26 <i>7:30 PM 2m Net on 146.175+ WB6ZGF</i>	27	28 <i>7:00 AM Club Breakfast</i> <i>DARC Yard Sale</i>
29	30 <i>7:15 PM Downey DCS Net</i>	Oct 1 <i>7:00 PM 440 Net on 445.640- pl 156.7</i>	Oct 2	Oct 3 <i>7:30 PM General Meeting</i>	Oct 4	Oct 5 <i>7:00 AM Club Breakfast</i>
Oct 6	Oct 7 <i>7:15 PM Downey DCS Net</i>	Oct 8 <i>7:00 PM 440 Net on 445.640- pl 156.7</i> <i>7:30 PM Board Meeting</i>	Oct 9	Oct 10 <i>7:30 PM 2m Net on 146.175+ AD6AF</i>	Oct 11	Oct 12 <i>7:00 AM Club Breakfast</i>



IF MICROSOFT MANUFACTURED HAM GEAR

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THE MOUNTAINTOP DX-PEDITION COULD HAVE BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL, IF ONLY LLOYD'S EXTENSION CORD WERE FOUR FEET LONGER.

FIRST CLASS



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