

SPURIOUS EMISSIONS

Hermiston Amateur Radio Club KC7KUG

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January 2003

Welcome to the New Year:

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2003 to all. We have survived another year with 2002 bringing us the largest membership in many years. We have a good start on the repeater projects but have much to do during 2003 before it can be completed. This month the new elected officers will take over and guide us through projects, events and many interesting meetings. Let's support the club and its officials and make 2003 an even greater year.

HamFair February 15, 2003:

The 23rd annual Salem Hamfair will be held Saturday-February 15, 2003 at the Polk County Fairgrounds. Grand Prize is an ICOM 706 MK 2 G and you don't need to be present to win. For info call Denis @ 503-585-5338 or e-mail wc7m@arrl.net.

By-laws change:

We have a motion to change some wording in the by-laws regarding the club V. Presidents and will need to be voted on in the January meeting. If you have any questions be at the meeting and take a look and cast your vote.

Dues are due:

It's that time of the year again and dues are due. They can be paid at the meeting or sent to the club mail box and if you have any questions feel free to contact me at the club e-mail address kc7kug@kc7kug.org or kc7ki@arrl.net or on the club 147.020 repeater. You can also start or renew your ARRL subscription through the club.

Your dues will help the repeater project to become a finished project

Club Breakfast:

The regular monthly club breakfast is Sunday, January 12, at the Hermiston Eagles Lodge. They give us their undivided attention and excellent service for our breakfast meeting with some very good tasting food from their menu.

HARC Monthly Meeting:

The regular monthly meeting is January 13, the second Monday evening of the month, at the Hermiston Fire Department station #3 on Westland Rd. The station is a very short distance off of highways 82 and 84 nr the Lamb Weston Generating plant.

From the League:

ARRL QSL Service ends 2002 just shy of 2 million cards shipped:

With sunspot numbers slowly starting to decline, it may be a while before the [ARRL QSL Service](#) again sees the sort of activity it dealt with in 2002. During the past year, the service mailed out 1,963,165 cards from ARRL members to DX stations. That's up by 30,850 over 2001--or approximately 1.6 percent. The final day's QSL card shipment to exotic and rare entities--done every 90 days--was 148,050 cards alone. "Overall, it's been a pretty good year for the bureau," said ARRL QSL Service Manager Martin Cook, N1FOC. "We got the cards sorted on time with no backlog this year." Cook said most members have been sorting their cards properly before sending them to the ARRL QSL Service

for shipping. "Unsorted cards really slow things down," he said.

Need info on how to QSL or your bureau? Just ask, many of us have quite a collection.

A New Band?:

ARRL Concludes 5-MHz Experiments, Awaits FCC Decision on New Band

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 3, 2002--With no fanfare, the ARRL allowed its WA2XSY 5-MHz experimental license to lapse January 1 rather than request renewal for another year. Last May, the FCC proposed going along with the ARRL's 2001 request for a new domestic (US-only), secondary HF allocation at 5.25 to 5.4 MHz. Discussions with various governmental agencies--including the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)--continue on how to accommodate amateur operation in the band, which is primary for several governmental agencies including the military. The NTIA regulates radio spectrum allocated to the federal government.

"At this point, we have every reason to believe the FCC will act on its proposal early this year," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "As to what the outcome will be as far as 5 MHz is concerned, we cannot predict."

In a December 24 letter, Sumner thanked the 15 Amateur Radio clubs and individual amateurs who took part in the 5-MHz experimental operation that began in January 1999 and largely concluded in 2002. "You assisted in providing an important part of the groundwork for our petition for a domestic allocation to the Amateur Radio Service in this frequency range by demonstrating the desirability and feasibility of a shared allocation," he wrote. "We hope it will not be long before

amateurs throughout the country are able to enjoy the fruits of your efforts."

Sumner said the ARRL chose not to request another renewal of the WA2XSY license because it already had obtained sufficient information to justify its petition for the band.

Until surprise opposition surfaced last fall from the NTIA, the FCC had the League's request for a new 60-meter band on the proverbial fast track. In a letter filed with the FCC last August--after the comment deadline had passed--the NTIA recommended that the Commission *not* go forward with the 5-MHz proposal. The NTIA said several government agencies with allocations in the proposed spectrum had expressed reservations about allowing amateurs to use the band, even on a non-interference basis.

The ARRL has been working with the federal agencies involved to resolve the impasse the NTIA letter raised. The NTIA said critical federal agencies, including the Department of Justice, the US Coast Guard and the Department of Defense, were making extensive use of 5 MHz frequencies. The FCC's May 2002 *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* (NPRM) fails to adequately protect these "critical government operations" from harmful interference, the NTIA asserted.

The ARRL has called the 5 MHz allocation "an urgent priority of the Amateur Service." In its July 2001 petition, the League told the FCC that a new band at 5 MHz would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters.

In the meantime, experimental operations on 5 MHz continue on a very limited basis in the United Kingdom and in Canada. In Newfoundland, the Marconi Radio Club's VO1MRC has been operating under experimental authority from Industry Canada and an endorsement from Radio Amateurs of Canada to conduct

experiments on 5 MHz. On December 21, VO1MRC completed a cross-band (5 MHz/7 MHz) CW contact with VK7RO in Tasmania. VO1MRC operator, Joe Craig, VO1NA, said the station has confirmed reception reports from North and South America as well as Europe. But he emphasized that the principal scope of the experiments was confined to Newfoundland.

Also in response to ARRL petitions, the FCC proposed last spring to permit amateur operation on a 136-kHz "sliver band" and to elevate Amateur Radio to primary status at 2400 to 2402 MHz.

For Sale, Trade or Wanted:

Remember if you have anything for this column send it to the club P.O. Box or e-mail it kc7kug@kc7kug.org or kc7ki@arrl.net . We have had good luck in this column in the past; you never know whose junk will become your new treasure.

Web Page:

Don't forget to visit the club web page. If you have any ideas let us know. It's your page!

ARES / RACES:

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio Emergency Services should contact Gary Cooper N7ZHG. You can find him on the 146.78 or 145.49 repeaters or umesro@ares.csepp.net for further information. The UMESRO radio net is on Thursday evenings at 1930 hrs. local time on the 146.780 (-) repeater.

See you at breakfast or the meeting...

73

Phil