

SHORT CIRCUITS

Newsletter of the Kent County Amateur Radio Club

August 2024

Officers			Repeaters
President	Jim Moore	KC3BTV	146.970 (-) 77hz pl Dover
Vice-President	Hunter Grier	W3CZ	146.910 (-) 77hz pl Camden
Secretary	Tim Reisinger	KC3OO	147.300 (+) 77 hz pl N3YMS
Treasurer	Tom Libertore	N3ARX	444.550 (+) 77hz pl Dover (down)
			442.450 (+) 127.3 hz pl Harrington
			449.775 (-) 114.8 hz pl N3IOC Felton

Happenings

August 8	AUXCOMM Meeting, 19:00
August 13	Membership Meeting, Kent County EOC, 19:00
August 26	Emcomm Meeting, EOC, 19:00
August 28	DARC Meeting, Salisbury, see https://www.qsl.net/darc/ for details
September 9	Membership Meeting, Kent County EOC, 19:00
September 12	AUXCOMM Meeting, 19:00
September 14	VE Testing, Wyoming Methodist Church, 09:00
September 14	Dewey Triathlon, more info coming
September 25	DARC Meeting, Salisbury, see https://www.qsl.net/darc/ for details
October 8	Membership Meeting, Kent County EOC, 19:00
October 10	AUXCOMM Meeting, 19:00
October 12	Apple-Scrapple Festival, Bridgeville, more info coming
October 23	DARC Meeting, Salisbury, see https://www.qsl.net/darc/ for details
October 28	Emcomm Meeting, EOC, 19:00
November 12	Membership Meeting, Kent County EOC, 19:00
November 14	AUXCOMM Meeting, 19:00
November 20	DARC Dinner Meeting, Salisbury, No program. See qsl.net/darc for details
November 25	Emcomm Meeting, EOC, 19:00
December 7	Rehoboth Marathon, more info coming
December 14	VE Testing, Wyoming Methodist Church, 09:00
January 14, 2025	Membership Meeting, Kent County EOC, 19:00
January 25-26, 2025	Winter Field Day, more to come

Hamfests

August 3 **Reading Radio Club Hamfest**
Reading Radio Club, Inc.
Heritage Park, 992 Clematis St., Sinking Spring, PA
Contact: James , W3ITH, 2 Mellowbrook Dr. Sinking Spring, PA 19608
Phone: 610-781-5508 **Email:** jnich26772@aol.com **Talk-In:** 146.91/.31 (tone 131.8)

August 11 **Valley Forge Hamfest**
Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club
Kimberton Fire Company Fairgrounds, 762 Pike Springs Rd., Phoenixville, PA 19460
Contact: Bob Palin , N3JIZ, PO Box 557 Eagleville, PA 19408 Phone: 610-420-1535
Email: hamfest@marc-radio.org **Talk-In:** 145.130- / 147.060+ (PL 131.8)

- September 7 **Delmarva Swapmeet**
Delmarva Amateur Radio Club
QTH of Al Waller K3TKJ, 34087 Old Hickory Rd, Laurel, DE 19956
Contact: Jim Jester, KC3ITR at 443-356-5677 or Arthur Parks N3EAK at
amparks6@gamial.com **Talk-in:** 146.82 (-) (156.7 PL) Admission Free
- September 8 **ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Convention and Hamfest
Gloucester County ARC**
Gloucester County 4H Fairgrounds, 235 Bridgeton Pike (Rt 77), Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
Contact: Sheldon Parker , K2MEN, 643 Betty Rose Ave. Gibbstown, NJ 08027
Phone: 1-609-417-7802 **Email:** k2men@comcast.net **Talk-In:** 147.180 PL 131.8
- October 6 **CARA Fest 2024
Columbia Amateur Radio Association**
Howard County Fairgrounds, 221 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD 21794
Contact: Andy Protigal , N3AWP, 6431 Skipton Drive Hanover, MD 21076
Phone: 410-218-3815 **Email:** n3awp@arrl.net **Talk-In:** 147.390 MHz (+) 156.7 Hz PL
- November 2 **Delmarva Swapmeet**
Delmarva Amateur Radio Club
QTH of Al Waller K3TKJ, 34087 Old Hickory Rd, Laurel, DE 19956
Contact: Jim Jester, KC3ITR at 443-356-5677 or Arthur Parks N3EAK at
amparks6@gamial.com **Talk-in:** 146.82 (-) (156.7 PL) Admission Free
- October 20 **RF Hill Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 2.0
RF Hill Amateur Radio Club**
Upper County Campus of the Bucks County Community College, 1 Hillendale Rd. (Use
Blooming Glen Rd. entrance 40°22'57.2"N 75°16'26.3"W)), Perkasio, PA 18944
Contact: John Morrell , KB3EWV, RF Hill ARC P.O. Box 336 Perkasio, PA 18944-0336
Phone: 215-399-7685 **Email:** rfillarc@yahoo.com

More hamfests listed at www.arrl.org/hamfests. Check at the web site, or call the contact person, before going to any hamfest to make sure it has not been canceled.

Editor's Comments

Field Day is over and the report submitted to the ARRL. We did pretty good this year, point wise, thanks to visitations by Jon, AA1K, and Eric, WG3J, who together made 968 CW contacts. Since each CW Q is worth two points, it doesn't take long to see where our points came from. Thanks Guys, we appreciate your efforts!

Field Day was hot! An understatement! However, we were not the only place it was hot. In the ARRL Club Newsletter the Sierra Amateur Radio Club (SARC) gave a brief description of their event. In the words of Cap Casperson, WX1WIZ, "The 2024 ARRL Field Day was a successful event for the Sierra Amateur Radio Club (SARC), despite a temperature of 111° F. We had 20 members stop by or spend the day at our event location, the Ridgecrest City Center in California. Many came to chat, but only five or six wanted to operate, despite our best efforts offering to let them use any of our multiple radios."

Kind of sounds like ours in a way. They set up an "antenna trailer tower" and made "172 digital (FT8) contacts" and "22 phone contacts were made, mostly with a BuddiStick antenna". Sounds as if they were working 2A, but we can see in December when the results appear in QST.

Our antenna situation was much better than theirs, thank you Nick! But our operations were very similar, as we had 18 members show up and four guests. Of those 18 members, 6 operated. All four of our guests operated, and in fact, two of them, Jon and Eric, made all the CW contacts.

So what does that matter? The main reasons for our club are to support the EOC with any back-up communication needs the Chief may have. Usually that is shelter operations, but it could be, and has been in the past, field operations such as monitoring water levels at critical locations. The second is to have “ham radio” fun. Be that “fun” is fox hunting, field day, special event stations, or POTA, all involves getting out there and operating or being part of a set up crew. The second reason being support for the first as “practice makes perfect”, or at least shows where problems are.

So as the ARRL said for this year's Field Day, let's “be radio active” and get on the air. Maybe a few of our members can start doing more POTA, as there are some who do, W1BLU and AB3JS come to mind right off the top of my head. Not into that, Winter Field Day looks like it will be in an empty parking lot at Dover Downs (thank you Nick). So let's get on the air and have some “ham radio fun”.

Speaking of Parks on the Air (POTA), I've been doing some “hunter” contacts and have made over 150 so far since I registered at the end of June of this year. I then discovered I had 16 listed since 2017 that showed up on “my hunter log”. Now apparently only contacts made after I registered count toward the awards, which are printable certificates, which are free. Registering is also free and is a great way to spend some time on the radio and have some fun. I'm making mine on CW, but some “activations” (the term for operations in the park) are on phone and some even on the “dark side” (FT8). I'm finding out that most of the “activators” are using “compromised antennas”, and since my rotor on the Yagi is broken, I'm working them on my dipole. Even more challenging, and fun! So jump on in and have some fun, whatever mode you choose. Maybe the club can do a POTA?

President's Column

'Tis the season to play with antennas. Conditions on 80 meters have been terrible for the Third Region Traffic Net (SSB) and the Delaware Traffic Net/Delmarva Emergency Net. The Third Region Net is the worst as it is earlier in the day (4pm) and covers a wider area. I frequently cannot hear the net control station and have to rely on a relay to check in. Adding to the propagation difficulties of 80 meter daytime ops is noise, especially lightning crashes. My noise is frequently S7 to S9 or worse.

As a result of the above, I am always looking to improve reception. My latest attempt is an 80m skywave loop about 10 feet above the ground tuned for about 3900 Khz. It is about 275 feet long going around the perimeter of my backyard. I have a 1:2 BalUn between the loop and the 50 ohm coax going to the shack and a SWR of less than 1.2:1. Of course that low to the ground it is NVIS as a “cloudburner”. Thus far, my results have been encouraging. My noise is still S5 but that is an improvement and several people have said that my outgoing signal is stronger. Being resonant, I don't have to worry about tuning and also saves some power loss. I'll see how it goes but will continue using it for the present. That's one of the joys of ham radio – the ability to try something new to improve your operation.

Try it!

73,
Jim KC3BTV
KCARC President

Vice-President's Column

One part of the hobby I've come to learn is that you can't test something too much. I had the opportunity to visit and assist Sussex ARES with their quarterly hospital drill and I learned a lot about how ARES and Ham Radio play into emergency communications from a different perspective.

While we are currently in hurricane season for this year, it's a good idea to test the radio and equipment you plan to use if you want to have radio communications in times of need. As I write this, I am reassembling my go kit because I find a way to improve it each time I open it up. Whether you participate in digital, like Winlink or FT8, or if you do Voice or CW, you cannot test your equipment enough to make sure it works when you need it to. Unsure if your computer is configured right? Send a Winlink message. Need to make sure your mic gain is set right? Call CQ and make a few QSOs to test for audio quality.

Just something to think about.

73

Hunter Grier - W3CZ
KCARC Vice President

From the Section Manager's Shack

ARRL Delaware Section Manager Newsletter – August 2024
Greetings from Sussex County

I am taking a break from working on the After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) for the statewide drill held on July 13 to write this newsletter. Every drill should have a thorough AAR/IP to analyze results, identify strengths to maintain and build upon, pinpoint areas for improvement, and support the development of corrective actions. Essentially, these reports help us understand what we did and how we can do it better. I want to thank everyone who participated in the statewide drill. Many aspects were executed well, while others need improvement. This is why we conduct drills.

Randall Carlson, WB0JJX, Former Delaware Section Manager, Silent Key

Last month, I received a call from Darvin Carlson, the brother of Randall Carlson, to inform me that Randall had become a Silent Key. Darvin mentioned his brother's passion for amateur radio, from joining local clubs in New Castle County to becoming the Delaware Section Manager in December 1992. Randall passed away on June 7, 2024, at the age of 66. He served as the Delaware Section Manager from December 1992 until 2005 and was originally licensed in the 1970s. Randall will be deeply missed by the amateur radio community.

Section Simulated Emergency Test – Saturday, October 26, 2024

Mark your calendars! The Delaware Section is holding our section-wide Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on Saturday, October 26, 2024. The SET is the ARRL's annual national emergency exercise designed to assess the skills and preparedness of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers and those affiliated with organizations involved in emergency and disaster response. This section SET will be run by Wendy, W3NRN, Section Emergency Coordinator, and will involve the same stations that participated in the July 13 drill. This is a great opportunity to dust off your Go Box and engage in some SSB or digital work. We will be working with VHF, UHF, and HF using SSB and digital modes. More information will be coming shortly.

Application Made for ARRL Grant for \$25,000

As Section Manager and the Vice President of the Nanticoke Amateur Radio Club, I have applied for a grant from the ARRL for \$25,000 to install/upgrade the section's digital network. If approved, this grant will provide funding for several new WinLink Gateways strategically located throughout the state as well as some upgrades to existing stations. These new stations will provide a reliable backbone for intrastate

digital communications during emergency and disaster response. Currently, there is a large section of the state not covered by existing gateways. Kent has no gateways, New Castle has one, and Sussex has six. Adding new gateways to these counties will allow us as EmComm operators to better serve not only our served agencies but also our communities.

ARRL Service Disruption Almost Fully Restored

The ARRL still has a few issues to resolve, but mostly the system is back up and running. Neither Division Directors nor Section Managers are able to send emails to their groups, and some .org addresses do not work. If you need to contact anyone at the ARRL, I suggest calling the toll-free number 1.888.277.5289. Logbook Of the World is back up and operational with all data.

Delaware State QSO Party Had Best Participation in Years!

The Delaware State QSO Party was a big success! 2024 tied for the largest turnout of Delaware Stations since 2020, with 22 stations participating. It was great hearing all of the Delaware Stations representing our state. Thanks go out to FSARC for hosting the event and to Jerry, KB2GCG, for compiling the data. The top three stations for the state and each county are listed below. Full results will be posted on the FSARC DE QSO Party webpage.

AA3R	355,928 pts	First Place DE,	First Place KDE
W3ASW	159,824 pts	Second Place DE,	First Place NDE
NU3A	158,418 pts	Third Place DE,	Second Place NDE
KB2GCG	44,640 pts		Third Place NDE
KT3W	20,138 pts		Second Place KDE
K3LT	3,018 pts		Third Place KDE
KC3DSO	25,856 pts		First Place SDE
KC3MAL	8,114 pts		Second Place SDE
WA3TVZ	920 pts		Third Place SDE

Upcoming Events

- International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend – August 17-18, 2024: This popular international amateur radio event takes place on the third full weekend in August each year, attracting over 500 lighthouse/lightship entries from over 40 countries. Visit illw.net for a full list of participating lighthouses/ships, including the Overfalls Lightship in Lewes and the Fenwick Island lighthouse.
 - August 3-4: 222MHz and Up Distance Contest
 - August 17-18: 10Ghz & Up – Round 1
 - August 18: RTTY Rookie Roundup
 - August 22-25: EME 2.3 GHz & Up
- Visit contests.arrl.org for details on these and upcoming contests.

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest & Upgrading Members. Join me in welcoming the latest additions to our vibrant community:

- KC3ZKZ: Raymond Chung
- KC3ZMK: Sean Erickson
- KC3ZML: Zac M Jackson
- KC3ZMO: David J Rossetti
- KC3ZMQ: John K Boland II
- KC3ZNG: Scott D Dresen

Keeping Our Radio Operators Trained, Active, and Sharp

Keeping amateur radio operators engaged is crucial for maintaining an active and responsive network of experienced operators. Regularly scheduled training sessions and workshops can enhance their skills and keep them up-to-date with the latest technologies and protocols. Encouraging participation in local and national drills, as well as organizing social events and recognition programs, can build a sense of community and appreciation. Additionally, creating opportunities for operators to share their experiences

and knowledge through newsletters, forums, and mentoring programs can foster collaboration and continuous learning. By providing these opportunities, we can ensure that our amateur radio operators remain motivated and committed to their vital roles in emergency communications.

Consider running workshops in addition to presentations. Projects like building an antenna for a Fox Hunt, constructing a simple 40/75/80 Dipole for EmComm, or even a soldering class to assemble coax cables can be very beneficial. These workshops not only build our radio skills but also make getting your ARES Task Book signed off easier. The new version of the ARES Task Book has been released by the ARRL and can be found ARES Task Book on the arrl.org website.

As always feel free to contact me about anything radio.

73,

Steven Keller

Delaware Section Manager

• Email: kc3dso@gmail.com

• Cell: 240.515.0620

• Office: 302.604.7470

Useful Links:

• ARRL Delaware Section Reflector

• ARRL Sections – Delaware

The Emcomm Corner

From the Emergency Coordinator

One of the major assets of amateur radio in a communications outage is its flexibility and adaptability. On fairly short notice hams have the ability to establish communications between any two places with minimal or no infrastructure. We can provide our own power, our own antenna systems, and everything in between and just make it work... at least in theory. We have the ability to transmit information via voice, data, text, and even pictures ...at least in theory. Any time there is a major communication system failure other things go wrong also so we must prepare for that possibility. The problems inherent with people working together are intensified by the stress of the moment. It is expected that everyone involved in disaster communication will act like adults. Disaster communications is not a kindergarten activity where you can have a temper tantrum if you don't get your way or have a meltdown if things go wrong. How do we prepare for things to go wrong? By training and having things go wrong. We try things and make fixes on the fly so we know what works as well as having a plan B, C and D already in mind when it doesn't work. The important thing is getting the job done – that message passed. If you cannot work with that reality then disaster communications is not your best place to be in amateur radio. There are lots of other ways to play radio – all good!

When I was aboard submarines, I was expected to have a thorough understanding of my job, both in routine operations as well as in casualty operations. In addition, I was expected to have a general understanding of every other job on the boat. At test depth, a one inch hole in the hull would make the sub unable to surface in 90 seconds. You had to know what to do if things went wrong using whatever materials and information you had available. We trained ALL THE TIME because my life and the lives of the other 125 people on board depended on us making the right choices instinctively as well as having backup plans. Our job was to work together to do the mission and then come safely home.

The peak of hurricane season is mid-August thru mid-October. Be prepared.

73,

Jim KC3BTV

AUXCOMM News

AUXCOMM Column August 2024

The tropics have been quiet for a while, but were still a month or so shy of the supposed Peak Atlantic Hurricane Season, which is traditionally September. Just this morning it seems there's a sixty percent possibility of something developing in the Caribbean and coming towards the south east part of the US, with an estimate of anywhere from South Carolina to Texas. Wouldn't take much, a few degrees to the North, and guess what? I've been preaching, "get ready" for a while. In my estimation, there's a great deal of complacency as to what will not happen, and how ready we are. That may unfortunately be true. We are not ready for what could happen, and there's not a whole lot of general movement towards getting ready. The Cambridge Dictionary (and others) define complacency as, " a feeling of calm satisfaction with your own abilities or situation that prevents you from trying harder".

The AUXCOMM management is not satisfied with the 'status quo', and I hope never will be. Always keep improving. Since January we have developed a partnership with the developing Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) at the direction of the past County Emergency Operations Director, Joe Thomas, and we've been pushing the curve to get what segment of the population we can be prepared.

I am very pleased to announce that the new administrative organization plan for the county's emergency response is in place and working. The new Sussex County Director of Public Safety, Robbie Murray, has hit the ground running. He now has three deputies, the last one coming on board, July 1, Tim Cooper, the deputy for Emergency Management. AUXCOMM and CERT fall under his direction. Bill Saunders, N3ID, AUXCOMM Operations, and I have now had several very orderly and productive meetings with Robbie and Tim. Things that were sort of 'in limbo' following Joe Thomas leaving, are now getting back up to speed. For one, we are actively recruiting hams interested in serving their community by supporting the work of the Sussex county Emergency Operations Center. For any Ham out there interested, we'd be happy to talk to you and show you around the EOC. Not only do we have the AUXCOMM Room with its three operating positions in the EOC, we also now have the AUXCOMM / CERT Trailer as a portable communication asset. It's still a work in progress, but it's out of the shops, and interior painting is almost finished. Several of us will be out with it at the Angola Safety Fair on August 3rd. The radios and antennas have been installed and working for a while. It's operational from HF through UHF, as well as the county's 800 MHz system.

We have two events coming, an exercise for mobiles and portables on August 17th for which you have to sign up as soon as possible, so individual instructions can be prepared for each operator or team. And as an incentive, there will be a drawing for a \$25 gift card to a local Sussex County restaurant. Each operator participating gets a chance to win. Next month, Saturday September 14th, is what will probably be the last running of the Dewey Beach Sprint Triathlon. We are looking for operators for that event, also. Interested in either event, drop and email to WVS3EOC@gmail.com, expressing your interest. Here's two really great opportunities to get out there and practice the craft of communications. They both should be fun, we hope not too exciting!

Later, 73

John K3PFW

Club Happenings

Report Of A Passing

With great sorrow we report the passing of Randall Carlson, WB0JJX. He passed away June 7, 2024. Randy was the Section Manager of the ARRL Delaware Section from December 1992 until 2005. He was originally licensed in the 1970s, and Randy was 66 years old.

Randy began a tradition of coming to each Field Day site to see the set up and converse with the operators. Randy used to show up at the C&R Center, where KCARC held Field Day for many years, just about dinner time on Saturday. And we were glad to be able to feed him! Randy was a joy to be around and he will be missed greatly.

QCWA Vice President & Historian Jeff Beals, WA4AW (SK)

For those who are QCWA members, I'm sad to report that Jeff Beals, WA4AW, QCWA Vice President and longtime QCWA Historian, passed away late on the evening of July 20th. Jeff had been hospitalized most of the time since January for cancer-related issues. He underwent several surgeries with very little improvement. He was in the hospital for several months before becoming a Silent Key.

Jeff was also the ARRL Vice Director for the Southeastern Division. He served as South Florida Section Manager and other positions with the ARRL for many years. He had a home in Alabama, one in South Florida, and one in Central Florida. Jeff is survived by his longtime partner Myra Kitchen, K3PGH. It was rare to see Jeff at a Hamfest without Myra operating the ARRL or QCWA booths.

Dewey Sprint Triathlon

Sussex AUXCOMM is supporting the County's MCU at the Dewey Sprint Triathlon, Saturday September 14th. The event starts at 0700 and is done by noon. Those operators in the MCU and working the Transition Area, need to be inside the perimeter by 0600, as there will be no access from the outside after that for vehicles.

We will need MCU operators and Transition Area operators, as well as stations along the course. For those that have done this event in the past, you know locations can be challenging, as to parking your mobile. Getting out there early is a plus. Let me know your interest ASAP.

A change in the Transition Area for this year, which, by the way, is most likely the last time this event will be run, is the WW II Tower that is now open, and gives absolutely great views of the beach, surf line, and Transition Area, we're planning on two operators at the top of the tower to cover Transition and Swim. You'll definitely want a camera, and a good pair of legs, there's no elevator. I climbed it and was blown away by the view.

The roster is open, let me know ASAP of your interest.

Later, 73 John

Winter Field Day Discussed

At the last meeting the subject of Winter Field Day was brought up. We have been told that Nick, N3MYS, will be able to get us on a parking lot used by the Dover Downs and Firefly Concert. The location is on the east side of Route 1, and away from power lines. Looks like it will be pretty RF quiet. This is also the site that Nick was talking about for Summer Field Day next year. Make sure to attend the meetings to find out more about the coming event. Never too early to plan!

Reported in QST

In the July issue of QST, which finally arrived in the mail, on page 85, are the results of the 2024 ARRL January VHF Contest. At the top of the pile for Single Operator, Portable, Analog Only in the Atlantic Division is Nick, N3MYS. Congratulations on the win! Will there be a plague? A well deserved win!

Oh Joy, Oh Joy

SUBJ: ASWFC GEOMAGNETIC DISTURBANCE WARNING 24/38
ISSUED AT 2323UT/31 JULY 2024

BY THE AUSTRALIAN SPACE WEATHER FORECASTING CENTER.

A CME that was first seen on 29-Jul may impact Earth late on 01-Aug, with effects possibly continuing into 02-Aug. This CME is mostly expected to induce G0-G1 geomagnetic conditions.
INCREASED GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY EXPECTED
DUE TO CORONAL MASS EJECTION
FROM 01-02 AUGUST 2024

GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY FORECAST

01 Aug: G0-G1

02 Aug: G0

Thanks to Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre, Bureau of Meteorology
ASWFC@bom.gov.au www.bom.gov.au | www.sws.bom.gov.au

Useless facts of the Month

The average person falls asleep in seven minutes. (No counting sheep for them!!)

The US retail industry makes US\$6.8 billion a year from gift cards that no one redeems. (I'll take a few!!)

The average American spends 9 years watching TV (I wonder how much time playing radio??)
Daniel Boone was a pioneer and frontiersman whose exploits made him one of the first folk heroes of the United States. He became famous for his exploration and settlement of Kentucky, which was then beyond the western borders of the Thirteen Colonies. In the late 18th century, Boone blazed the Wilderness Road through the Cumberland Gap, a natural pass through the Appalachian Mountains, which opened up the western frontiers for settlement. Boone's adventures in Kentucky became legendary, embodying the spirit of American pioneering and expansion during that era.

The proper name for an egg white is the albumen. This clear, viscous substance surrounds the yolk and comprises about 60% of an egg's total weight. The albumen is rich in proteins, notably ovalbumin, which is essential for the structure and stability of various culinary creations. When whipped, it traps air and forms foams, making it crucial for meringues and soufflés. Unlike the yolk, which is high in fats, egg whites contain almost no fat and have less than 1% carbohydrate content. They also account for about 56% of the egg's total protein.

One World Trade Center is the main building of the rebuilt World Trade Center complex in Lower Manhattan, New York City. One WTC is the tallest building in the United States, the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere, and the seventh-tallest in the world. The supertall structure has the same name as the North Tower of the original World Trade Center, which was destroyed in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The new skyscraper stands at a total height of 1,776 feet. Its height in feet is a deliberate reference to the year when the United States Declaration of Independence was signed.

Tid Bit of Information of the Month Department

After Action Report: Encrypted "Numbers" Broadcast

Last July KPH broadcast an encrypted message using the famous ENIGMA encryption technology. This event was a huge success and in the last newsletter we announced another encrypted broadcast test. KPH Cryptography Manager, Kevin McGrath/KM offers the following "After Action Report":
According to the reports received, the MRHS Numbers Station event was an enormous success. On January 20, 2024, shortwave listeners, ham radio operators, cryptographic enthusiasts and (we must assume) secret agents across the globe huddled over their HF radios and listened at the appointed time

and frequencies as KPH sent a coded message in 5-digit groups. The message was encrypted using typical Cold War "Numbers Station" cryptographic procedures. All KPH listeners were invited to try their hand at receiving and decrypting the message. Certificates were awarded to all who successfully decoded the message and a special certificate was awarded to the first successful decode.

MRHS received 161 entries and sent out 156 "Certificates of Cryptographic Excellence". Entries came in from US, Japan, Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Finland, Netherlands, England, Czech Republic, Poland, New Zealand, and Australia. About 1/3 of the participants had participated in previous KPH crypto challenges. Decoding the Numbers Message involved 130 modulo-10 additions (one for each digit in the message), converting the resulting digits back to letters using the supplied conversion chart and the use of a codebook to look up useful words and phrases. The first decode was received only 10 minutes after the broadcast finished, with the rest coming in within the 72-hour time limit.

Here's the Numbers transmission as sent, using CW and RTTY, on 7 HF frequencies plus 425 kc:

CQ CQ CQ DE KPH KPH KPH
CQ CQ CQ DE KPH KPH KPH
NUMBERS MESSAGE FOLLOWS

=
447 447 447
=
14408 22398 89277 37674 58289
07722 15378 84975 30552 61128
69986 02108 68467 10079 92331
32982 54092 37446 22905 15340
17129 81152 39418 67073 25414
81456 43361
=

Using the one-time-pad and Mission Critical information found on the MRHS web site, the above message decoded as follows:

TO AGENT 447
CURRENT OP COMPROMISED. ABORT.
TRAVEL IMMEDIATELY TO ISTANBUL VIA SWISS PASSPORT.
CONTACT AGENT MAX. DANGER, INSIST ON MOSCOW RULES.
BURN AFTER READING.

Your editor was number 36 and it took me more than one half hour to decode it. But it was a blast! Looking forward to the next one!

Thanks to MRHS Newsletter

QSO Of a Lifetime

It is easy enough to believe in the possible - but one ham in Germany now believes in the impossible. Leo, DL2COM, successfully operated pedestrian mobile QRP in pursuit of a rare DX, ClubLog's #19th most wanted DXCC for CW. That would be Monk Iakovos SV2RSG/A, a member of the orthodox community in a monastery atop Greece's Mount Athos – a place that is a magnet for pileups. Leo tells fellow hams reading the qrper.com website that he'd long had his sights on a contact with Iakovos with the full understanding that the monk's religious obligations always took precedence over any ionospheric ones happening lower in the heavens.

Trying to log this particular monk, however, was a test of Leo's faith - so he summoned all that he had: On the night that his HamAlert app flagged him at an opportune time, he spotted Iakovos calling CQ on 20m. In a recent post on qrper.com, Leo gives the details of his hastily arranged hunt, which was going

to be accomplished as pedestrian mobile because no antennas are permitted at his QTH in the center of Berlin. He fished out his KX2 from his backpack and hurriedly grabbed the only shoes available at the moment - his wife's sneakers. Thus began his foot race to the local park, operating QRP in women's footwear. After a few missed calls using his key, he called again with nervous, anxious hands – then copied SV2RSG/A coming back to him with an RST of 5 9 9. Logged – and within mere minutes!

On his jubilant trek home, Leo discovered he had yet another pileup to conquer: In all the excitement, he had apparently dragged his counterpoise through the byproduct left by a neighbor's dog. He wrote that, fortunately, the residue of this unwanted off-the-air contact “cleaned easily in under 2 minutes” – in fact, not much more time than it took to complete his triumphant score on the air. It's all part of the chase and the challenge, after all: Sometimes to grab that once-in-a-lifetime contact, you not only have to have faith - but you have to deal with a bit of unexpected splatter.

(To read Leo's story in his own words, visit:<https://qrper.com/2024/07/mount-athos-qrp-morse-code/>. You'll notice that his list of gear includes “soap.”)

Thanks to the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club and QRPer.com

Siyata Mobile SD7 PTT Handsets Selected by Public Utility to Replace Two-Way Radios

POSTED BY: EDITORIAL STAFF JUNE 4, 2024

City of Lancaster, Ohio Integrates Solution into Day-to-Day Utility Operations

NEWS / PRESS RELEASE

Vancouver, BC – May 28, 2024 — Siyata Mobile Inc. (Nasdaq: SYTA, SYTAW) (“Siyata” or the “Company”), a global developer and vendor of Push-to-Talk over Cellular (PoC) handsets and accessories, today announced that it has received an order from the City of Lancaster Public Utilities Department for its SD7 Push-to-Talk (PTT) handsets, VK7 Vehicle Kits and related accessories. The department provides utilities for the residents of Lancaster, Ohio.

Siyata CEO, Marc Seelenfreund, commented, “Our SD7 Handset was deemed the best choice for use by the department because it is rugged, simple to use and is proven to provide both cost savings and operational benefits. Our solution surpasses the limitations of traditional land-to-mobile technology making it ideally suited for utility field work, which is often performed in extreme conditions when reliable communications are critical to restoring service and performing maintenance.”

Charlie Mullett, Traffic Control Supervisor from Lancaster's Department of Transportation commented, “We chose the Siyata SD7 unit along with the VK7 Vehicle Kit because we like the versatility of having the high-performance PTT Communication as a mobile rugged handheld or as a docked unit in our transportation vehicles. The handset is simple to use and similar to two-way radios making it a good fit for staff who were already accustomed to using radios.”

About Siyata Mobile

Siyata Mobile Inc. is a B2B global developer and vendor of next-generation Push-To-Talk over Cellular handsets and accessories. Its portfolio of rugged PTT handsets and accessories enables first responders and enterprise workers to instantly communicate over a nationwide cellular network of choice, to increase situational awareness and save lives. Police, fire, and ambulance organizations as well as schools, utilities, security companies, hospitals, waste management companies, resorts and many other organizations use Siyata PTT handsets and accessories today.

In support of our Push-to-Talk handsets and accessories, Siyata also offers enterprise-grade In-Vehicle solutions and Cellular Booster systems enabling our customers to communicate effectively when they are in their vehicles, and even in areas where the cellular signal is weak. Siyata sells its portfolio

through leading North American cellular carriers, and through international cellular carriers and distributors.

Siyata's common shares trade on the Nasdaq under the symbol "SYTA" and its previously issued warrants trade on the Nasdaq under the symbol "SYTAW."

Visit www.siyata.net and unidencellular.com to learn more.

Thanks to All Things FirstNet on line

Joke of the Month

The Farmer and the Lawyer

Settlement... Lawyer and the three kick rule

An Atlanta lawyer went duck hunting in rural Tennessee. He shot and dropped a bird, but it fell into a farmer's field on the other side of a fence. As the lawyer climbed over the fence, an elderly farmer drove up on his tractor and asked him what he was doing. The litigator responded, "I shot a duck and it fell in this field, and now I'm going in to retrieve it." The old farmer replied. "This is my property, and you are not coming over here." The indignant lawyer said, "I am one of the best trial attorneys in Georgia and, if you don't let me get that duck, I'll sue you and take everything you own."

The old farmer smiled and said, "Apparently, you don't know how we do things in Tennessee. We settle small disagreements like this with the Tennessee Three-Kick Rule." The lawyer asked, "What is the Tennessee Three-Kick Rule?" The Farmer replied. "Well, first I kick you three times and then you kick me three times, and so on, back and forth, until someone gives up."

The big-city attorney quickly thought about the proposed contest and decided that he could easily take the old codger. He agreed to abide by the local custom.

The old farmer slowly climbed down from the tractor and walked up to the city feller. His first kick to the shin had the lawyer hopping around on one foot when suddenly the farmer planted the toe of his heavy work boot into the lawyer's groin and dropped him to his knees. The barrister was flat on his belly when the farmer's third kick to a kidney nearly caused him to pass out. The lawyer summoned every bit of his will and managed to get to his feet and said, "Okay, you old coot now it's my turn."

The old farmer smiled and said, "Naw, I give up. You can have the duck."

Quote of the Month

"Our world is not divided by race, color, gender, or religion. Our world is divided into wise people and fools. And fools divide themselves by race, color, gender, or religion."

Nelson Mandela