HOSARC Newsletter

February, 2006



NewsFuse

HOSARC Supports Ham Radio University 2006

The seventh annual Ham Radio University (HRU) event took place at Briarcliffe College in Bethpage, NY, on January 8, 2006. Billed as "A day of education to share ideas, experiences, knowledge and fellowship among Amateur Radio operators", the event doubles as a convention of the New York City/Long Island Section of the ARRL.

HRU is a day long event structured around a series of educational forums, a VE session for those looking to upgrade or obtain a ham ticket for the first time, an exhibit of local radio clubs and organizations, and a keynote speaker.

The keynote speaker for

2006 was the famous Gordon West, WB6NOA, author of several ham radio books and contributing



HOSARC President Allan Keonigberg, AE2J, and Chariman Tom Golero, KC2CBA, are proud to showcase the club at HRU.

editor of CQ Magazine. Gordon addressed a standing room only crowd of radio operators and shared his thoughts on the state of ham radio. He said advances in digital technology such as the internet, gps, and D-Star are reshaping ham radio. Gordon said that long-time members of the hobby need to adapt to these changes, if the hobby is to flourish and attract the younger generation into the seemingly old art of radio; after all, today's youth is tomorrow's ham radio operator.

During his keynote address, Gordon drew humor from the outdated questions still in the various licensing question pools and gave his predictions on the changes that can be expected from the FCC on license privileges and requirements.

Each of the educational forums at HRU contained between 2 and 5 different lecture topics. The forums covered topics such as boating and ham radio,

BPL Interference Hits NY

As if it weren't tough enough to be an HF operator in New York with above ground utility lines, noisy transformers, restrictive zoning in many towns and villages, and a lack of knowledge by many local law enforcement personnel regarding the rights and privileges of FCC licensed amateur radio operators, New York State just made it tougher. The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has given a monetary grant to a Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) system, documented by the ARRL as causing harmful interference to HF operators.

BPL is the delivery of Internet signals using electrical wiring to conduct high-speed digital signals

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Getting Schooled at Ham Radio University continued from page 1



mobile HF, ground and lightning, satellite operations, both way radio internet email, amateur radio response to hurricane Katrina, and the history of radio on Long Island.

HOSARC's own Jeff Schneller, N2HPO, ran a forum on the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network and Go-



Jeff Schneller, N2HPO, displays emergency preparedness the Salvation Army way at HRU.

Boxes, which are self contained radio kits ready to be deployed at a moments notice to any emergency.

HRU was also an opportunity to rub elbows with amateur radio celebrities. Besides the infamous Gordon West, there was also Ken Neubeck, WB2AMU, author of the classic book

Six Meters, A Guide To The Magic Band and co-author of VHF Propagation, A Practical Guide. Also present was Jonathon Taylor, creator of Echo Link, member of CQ Magazine Hall of Fame, and author of VoIP: Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs. CQ Contest Hall of Fame member Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, was also on hand. Jeff was a World Radio Sport Team Championship (WRTC) competitor in Slovenia and in Helsinki. Jeff is actively fundraising for WRTC 2006, scheduled to take place in Florianopolis,



The WB2HWW Gang chilling out with Gordo at HRU. From L to R: Rob, AB2UV, Keivan, W2KTU, Howie, WB2HWW, Bill, KV2E, Gordon West, WB6NOA, Felix, K2KHV, and Chris, N2YRP.

Brazil.

HRU was an opportunity to share ideas, make new friends, and hang-out with old buddies.

Westchester BPL Interference to HF Bands Documented by ARRL; FCC and NYS Complacency Real Concern continued from page 1

to and between homes and businesses. The frequency of these signals covers

almost the entire amateur HF radio spectrum. BPL causes harmful interference to HF radio operators as a result of the fact that



BPL service provider in Westchester County, NY.

power lines are not designed to prevent the radiation of radio frequency (RF) energy.

The ARRL reports that Ambient Corporation has installed a BPL system in the Briarcliff Manor section of Westchester



Ambient technician tests suburban BPL installation.

County that violates both the conditions of its FCC license as well as Part 15 of the FCC rules regarding harmful interference to other radio services. The ARRL has documented this harmful interference in a 25 page engineering report filed with the FCC and available on the web.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, and Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR,

have sent an email to all ARRL members in NYS notifying everyone of the documented interference and urging all radio operators to contact the Governor and the President of NYSERDA



Utility pole mounted Ambient Corp BPL equipment (photo by N2YGK).

and demand that the Ambient Corporation BPL project in Briarcliff Manor, NY

" ARRL urges New York members to protest NYS grant to BPL site causing harmful interference." cease all operating activity until the site is in compliance with Part 15 of the FCC rules and the conditions of operations noted on its FCC license.

Contact Frank Fallon at

n2ff@arrl.org for more information on exactly what you can do to fight this interference from encroaching upon your rights as a licensed radio operator. Check out the Alan Croswell, N2YGK, website http://www.columbia.edu/~alan/bpl/, which is dedicated to documenting the harmful interference caused at the Briarcliff Manor BPL sites.

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NYS agency gave \$200k grant to BPL service run by Ambient Corp.

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Swap-n-Shop

A new feature of the HOSARC News-Fuse is the Swap 'n Shop column. In this column the NewsFuse Editor will list any ham related equipment, including computers, that HOSARC members would like to sell, swap, or trade. There are no warranties or guarantees implied by HOSARC with these postings. If there is a piece of equipment that is listed that you are interested in, please contact the seller directly. If you would like to list a piece of equipment please send an email to the Editor. Good luck and happy hunting.

Seller: KC2KXC.

Email: motoshack@optonline.net

Mark has a number of commercial Mo-

torola radios for sale. All of these radios are capable of covering the ham bands and then some. Mark has a Motorola Astro Saber in excellent condition. The Astro Saber covers 403 MHz to 470



MHz. Mark also has a very rare Motorola GP300 radio that covers the 220 MHz band! Send Mark, KC2KXC, an email if you are interested in his radios.

Seller: KC2CBA

Email: Tomflushing3@aol.com

Tom has 50 feet of RG-8 coax, brand new in the box from Radio Shack. He is looking to sell it for \$22. If you are interested please send Tom an email.

Seller: K2KHV

Email: k2khv@hosarc.org

Felix has 2 x 512MB Samsung memory sticks: 184 pin, DDR SDRAM, PC3200 MB/sec. Email him an offer.

W2IRT Bids A Fond Farewell as HOSARC Vice-President by Pete Dougherty

It's always difficult when moving into a new area to find just the right club that represents one's interests and has a strong membership. So it was in mid-2002 when I started to become active in the NYC area after moving down from Canada in 2000, and I found WB2ZZO while scanning across the bands. Living only 5 miles from the station and being available during the day, I found it an easy and fun commitment to activate the club station for the museum's visitors 4 or 5 days a week.

2004, I accepted the position of club Vice President and was the station manager during my 2005 term, and with the help of so many of our dedicated members, we were able to transform the club station into the powerhouse it is today. I don't think there's an HF station anywhere on the planet that we can't work with more than a couple of calls now. As most of you know, my primary focus is HF DXing, and I was pleased to bring my expertise in that field to help the club hit the 200+ level in the DXCC program.

By mid-2004, my wife and I realized that it was getting high time to look for new digs, and last summer we realized our dream of buying our first house, located in Essex County, NJ, about a mile away from KJI Electronics in West Caldwell. While we knew this would be an exciting chapter in our lives, it also came with the unfortunate reality that I would no longer be able to contribute to HoSARC to the degree I was previously able to do so in the past due to distance, tolls, etc. As a



Pete Dougherty, W2IRT, has a new home and a new state of the art radio shack in Caldwell, NJ. A real dream come true.

result, I decided not to continue as a club officer for 2006. I'm writing this to personally thank each and every member of HoSARC for their commitment to the club, for their contributions of time and other resources in building a first-class station, and to remind one and all that even though I'm no longer going to be a fixture at club meetings, I'm willing to help each and every one out however I can.

The new home OTH is a suburban DXer's paradise. I'm currently active on all HF bands. My equipment consists of a Mark V transceiver, an Ameritron AL-811 amplifier and a 70 foot Tri-Ex LM470 motorized crank-up tower, on top of which sit two Force 12 antennas. I'm running a C31XR, 14 elements total on a 31-foot boom for 10, 15 and 20 meters, as well as a small Force 12 2/2/1 for the WARC bands on a short 7 foot boom. I'm still sorting out what I'm doing on the low-bands, and I'm expecting to load up the tower for 80 and 160 sometime this year and hopefully will have a vertical or Moxon up for 40m as well. I may also

put up an Inverted-L and/or a K9AY receiving loop as well. Of course, the door and coffee pot at my home in West Caldwell are always open,

and if you're heading over to Gene's

store, don't be afraid to drop in at anytime and say, "Hi". See you in the pileups!



March 2006

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----|-----|--|
| | | | 1 Club Net | 2 | 3 | 4 ARRL Interna- tional DX Contest Phone |
| 5 ARRL Inter- national DX Contest Phone | 6 | 7 Board Meeting | 8 Club Net | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 General Meeting | 15 Club Net | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Club Net | 23 | 24 | 25 Timonium Ham-fest |
| <i>26</i> Timonium Ham-fest | 27 | 28 | <i>29</i> Club Net | 30 | 31 | |

Chairman's Report by Tom Golero

Hello!

At the January 2006 Board Member meeting, committee assignments were made. They are as follows. Bernie, K2ZIR, is the Radio Station Chair; Pete, W2IRT, is the Radio Station Advisor; Felix, K2KHV, has Public Relations, Newsletter, and Historical; Steve, WB2KDG, has Ham-fest as well as Historical; Sidney, K0SID, is the Repeater Chair; Tom, N2YTF, is the Technical Committee Chair; Lenny, W2LJM, has VE and Testing; Dave, WA2KWP, is responsible for the Club Constitution and Member Grievances; Howie, WB2HOW, has Good and Welfare; Jim, WA2UTR, is responsible for Station Interference; Idla, KC2JOM, and Al, KC2SDX, have the BBQ and Holiday Parties; and, I have Activities and Field Day. The position of Membership Committee Chairperson is still open to anyone who is interested in volunteering. Please remember, club officers and board members can't do it all; they need your help. If any one of these committees sounds interesting to you, please contact the appropriate chairperson and give a helping hand. Remember, the club, as well as our hobby, are about having fun!

Please remember to pay your club dues. We still have approximately 20 members who have yet to pay their dues. It's important to make timely dues payment; it helps to produce an accurate membership roster as well as provide necessary cashflow for the club.

I am very pleased with the number of



HOSARC Chairman Tom Golero, KC2CBA, operates portable whenever possible with his Icom 706 rig.

members who signed up for the ARRL HQ tour. A special thanks to those individuals who volunteered to drive. I am sure it is going to be a great trip.

Please keep track of the calendar portion of the NewsFuse. Updates on planned

Schedule of Events

- February 16th ARRL HQ in Newington, Connecticut.
- March Timonium ham-fest and HF mobile contest in Maryland.
- April Special event station operation in NY or NJ.
- May Fishing trip may be slipped to June for good fishing reasons.
- June Field Day and HOSARC ham-fest.
- July IARU HF World Championship.
- August ARRL UHF Contest.
- September ARRL VHF QSO Party.
- October HOSARC ham-fest.
- November ARRL November Sweepstakes.
- December Holiday Party.



activities are posted each month. I also send updates on activities through email. Please check your email.

If anyone is interested in taking a bus to the big Baltimore ARC sponsored hamfest in Timonium Maryland, please contact Bob Bush, WD4BKD, via email at WNGIT02@aol.com for more information. The bus will leave from New Jersey with a bunch of other hams from various local clubs.

Even though its cold and snowing outside, it is time to begin to think about Field Day, which occurs each year during the last full weekend in June. We have a number of members who never participated in this great event. This year's focus will be new operators. Seasoned Field Day operators will be needed to show Field Day neophytes what to do. I encourage anyone with ideas, suggestions, and comments on Field Day to contact me.

That is it for now. I hope to see you all at the next meeting!

73, Tom



NEW YORK HALL OF SCIENCE Amatuer Radio Club

Tom Golero, KC2CBA, Chairman of the Board Allan Koenigsberg, AE2J, President Bernard Stein, K2ZIR, Vice President Howard Weissman, WB2HLW, Secretary Steve Greenbaum, W2KDG, Treasurer

Felix Lam, K2KHV, NewsFuse Editor

E-mail: K2KHV@hosarc.org

Do you have a story? Contact the NewsFuse Editor.



The Hall of Science Amateur Radio Club, HOSARC, was founded in 1972 and is affiliated with the New York Hall of Science, a hands-on science and technology center located in the historic Flushing Meadows, Corona Park in Queens, New York. HOSARC club members maintain and operate the amateur radio exhibit located in the lower level of the center's central pavilion. The exhibit is a fully functional radio shack, equipped with top-of-the-line, modern amateur radio equipment. The shack operates all modes on all HF, VHF, and UHF bands. Visitors to the Hall of Science can operate the kilowatt HF station, WB2JSM. The club also operates the WB2ZZO repeater on 444.200 with a positive shift and a PL tone of 136.5. You do not have to be a club member to use the repeater; all are welcome. Please join our club nets which occur every Wednesday evening at 9pm. Net control operators are Ken, K2JLK and Bernie, K2ZIR. The club meets at 8pm every second Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria of the New York Hall of Science. Come on down, and meet the gang!

Amateur Radio Operator's Code of Conduct



The Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928 while serving as the ARRL's General Counsel. The Code represents the deep pride ham radio

operators have for their hobby and the role of the ARRL in protecting every ham radio operator's right against infringement. Consider the historic context. In 1901 Guglielmo Marconi sent the first successful transatlantic Morse code message across the Atlantic. In 1912 the Titanic sent a historic distress signal after its fatal collision with an iceberg. In 1928 the ARRL sponsored the first organized contest, the International Relay Party. There were approximately 17,000 licensed ham radio operators, in a time when there was still no television and broadcast radio was in its infancy. Amateur radio operators were the few people literally in tune with the world! Let's hope that this pride, sense of international community, and

commitment to the ideals of amateur radio continues in the hobby for generations to come. The Code has appeared in every issue of the Radio Amateur's



Look closely at the ARRL flag. The stripes are organized in groups that spell the Q-signal, QST, which is the rallying call for all Amateur Radio Operators.

Handbook since 1927.

The radio amateur is:

CONSIDERATE, never knowingly operates in such a way to lessen the pleasure

of others.

LOYAL, offers loyalty, encouragement, and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE, with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station, and operates above reproach.

FRIENDLY, slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation, and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED, radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school, or community.

PATRIOTIC, station and skill always ready for service to country and community.