

IN-SERVICE

Spring

Volume 88

May 2004

Attendees at the ASCRA meeting in Independence, Missouri, March 27, 2004, from left to right across the picture:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Dick Wynes Ka7VMA | 9. Barbara Redding W5HKY | 18. Chuck Palmer NØONN |
| 2. Preston Gates KD5SDL | 10. Tom Thatcher W2TFT | 19. Michael Hahn KGØXU |
| 3. Bruce Ruoff | 11. Terry Redding W6LMJ | 20. Brandon Gates |
| 4. Muirl Robinson W8QK | 12. Tom Needham WA7TBP | 21. Doug Shaw WAØEMX |
| 5. Mary Elizabeth Redding KC5UFZ | 13. Sarah Lynn Redding KC5YYT | 22. Lisa Gates N5VFA |
| 6. Bob Farnham | 14. Jeff Winship NØOXK | 23. David Gates N5LCL |
| 7. David Bland KBØGR | 15. Tom Alexander K5RY | 24. Ernie Miles WB2UJL |
| 8. Robin Cross WØFEN | 16. Barbara Lee Collins W6RWE | 25. Tony Crandell KØISA |
| | 17. Hale Collins W6RWH | |

Photo by Fred Troeh NØELM

MESSAGE TO THE CONFERENCE

From: The Association of Saints Church Radio Amateurs

To: The 2004 World Conference of the Community of Christ assembled in Independence, Missouri, USA

Greetings:

As a worldwide church-affiliated organization whose motto is "IN SERVICE", dedicated to emergency communications and other community support activities, the over 250 members of the Association of Saints Church Radio Amateurs add our prayers to those of the saints around the world that your fellowship, deliberations, and worship will be blessed by an abundant presence of the Holy Spirit.

We pray further that each of you will carry home a great and positive witness of the experience in community in which you share together during this momentous week.

May that witness, in turn, enable and embolden the communities, both sacred and secular, wherein you reside to embrace the goals for which we strive; to establish environments in which our hope for all people; that peace, joy, love, and healing of the spirit; may become a reality.

God bless you all.

Douglas Shaw, waØemx, Secretary
Association of Saints Church Radio Amateurs

FCC Okays BPL Proposal

The FCC has unanimously approved a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) to deploy Broadband over Power Line (BPL). The NPRM is the next step in the BPL proceeding, which began last April with a Notice of Inquiry that attracted more than 5100 comments—many from the amateur community. The FCC did not propose any changes in Part 15 rules governing unlicensed devices, but said it would require BPL providers to apply "adaptive" interference mitigation techniques to their systems. An ARRL delegation that

included President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, attended the FCC open meeting in Washington, and later expressed disappointment in the FCC action. "The Commission clearly recognized that the existing Part 15 emission limits are inadequate to stop interference, but it's placing the burden of interference mitigation on the licensed user that's supposed to be protected," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

Sumner said that if the FCC really believed current Part 15 emission limits were sufficient, it would not have had to require that BPL providers institute interference mitigation systems. The FCC has not yet released the actual NPRM, and a presentation by the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) revealed only its broad outlines. Sumner said the League would not take a formal position until it reviews the full NPRM.

Anh Wride of the OET staff spelled out the scope of the NPRM, which only addresses so-called "access BPL"—the type that would apply radio frequency energy to exterior overhead and underground low and medium-voltage power lines to distribute broadband and Internet service. She said the OET staff believes that interference concerns "can be adequately addressed." Wride said the FCC's BPL NPRM:

* Applies existing Part 15 emission limits for unlicensed carrier-current systems to BPL systems. Part 15 rules now require that BPL systems eliminate any harmful interference that may occur "and must cease operation if they cannot," she noted.

* Requires BPL systems to employ "adaptive interference-mitigation techniques, including the capabilities to shut down a specific device, to reduce power levels on a dynamic or remote-control basis and to include or exclude specific operating frequencies or bands."

* Subjects BPL providers to notification requirements that would establish a public database to include such information as the location of BPL devices, modulation type and operating frequencies.

* Proposes guidelines to provide for consistent and repeatable measurement of the RF emissions from BPL and other carrier-current systems.

Mirroring his colleagues' enthusiasm, FCC Chairman Michael Powell called BPL "tremendously exciting." While conceding that BPL has "a long way to go," the chairman said it could be "the great broadband hope for a good part of rural America." Powell also said the FCC's OET has worked very hard to try to "get their hands around" the issue of interference and that the FCC would continue its vigilance in that area.

The FCC is expected to issue the complete Notice of Proposed Rule Making within a few days and will invite comments on it sometime after its publication.

Additional information about BPL and Amateur Radio is on the ARRL Web site, www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/.plc/.

Doug Shaw WAØEMX

20-METER NET

April 30, 2004

The following have checked into the 20M net since 1/25/2004 on 3:30PM CST, Sunday on 14.287 MHZ.

Sorry if I missed any.

Ernie Miles

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NØBGG, Larry Oiler NØELM, Fred Troeh
WØFEN, Robin Cross WAØFGW, Randy Bronson
WAØIBS, Andy Ferrar KAØOKI, John Nihart
KBØUZR, Steve Lassila KGØXU, Michael Hahn

VE2IQB, Bernard Wolkove N2RRA, Eric Cuevas
W2TFT, Tom Thatcher WB2UJL, Ernie Miles
WB2WLD, Leon Selman

VK3AQN, Fred Naylor W3HEN, John Seither
VE3RZ, Anthony Osman VE3SCP, Scott Price

KF4MGG, Joshua Pope KG4MWO, David Mitchell
KG4YXC, Michael Cehand

N5ECP, Jeff Salmons W5FLW, Matthew Jones
W5HKY, Barbara Redding N5LCL, Dave Gates
K5RY, Tom Alexander K5WPN, Wade Norris
KC5YYT, Sarah Lynn Redding

W6LMJ, Terry Redding W6MPD, Harry De Biddle
W6RWH, Hale Collins

WA7TBP, Tom Needham K7NCG, Jim Fish
K7PVV, Norm Frause KA7VMA, Dick Wynes

N8LCD, Bob Moy K8QA, Mike Oiler
W8QK, Muirl Robinson

KB9VAA, Mark Wilson K9YV, Steve Fagan

INTERNET REMOTE Ham Radio Adventures

Greetings from Oakville, Washington

When I read my February 2004 issue of the In-Service, I wanted to thank the In-Service staff, and writers Eric Santon KJ0D, and Terry Redding W6LMJ for the articles about operating Internet Remote. I decided to try it out and thought I'd share my experiences.

First I went to <http://www.w4mq.com/> which was mentioned in Terry's article. The website shows 5 different sites that provide Internet Remote access to their stations. I went to each site to find out more about the stations. The control operator's picture was on the N4OLT site and he looked very familiar. A quick trip to a Callsign lookup engine revealed the control operator was none other than Terry Redding. His article had said he was considering setting up remote access to the olt.net corporate club station. Well it's up and running.

The software needed to operate the remote stations is provided on the W4MQ website. I started downloading the software and sent Terry an e-mail. I explained that not only was I interested in experimenting with the technology, I'd also just moved and was currently without a station. He told me the station was going to be receive only for non-corporate club members, but as it turns out, ASCRA members are considered associate members. We setup a password and I was authorized to use the station, which is a Kenwood TS2000 connected to a 10-40 meter dipole and a 146/440 MHz vertical.

The download was now done. You get what you pay for, and this is freeware. I was expecting configuration nightmares. So I took a deep breath and ran the install software. It went smoothly enough and created a desktop icon. Another deep breath and I clicked the icon. I was expecting the usual corrupt or missing file error messages. Instead, this nice clean little interface popped up that looks a lot like a radio. I spun the knob and pushed a few buttons, or the interface equivalent. There's good documentation so I won't explain how the controls work.

OK the knobs spin and the buttons push. I entered call sign and password in the windows labeled ... callsign and password. I took yet another deep breath, and pushed the login button labeled login. My speakers came to life and I was in.

I listened to several bands, switched to different modes, fiddled with the squelch, and kicked the tires. The audio was good. It was just plain fun.

One of the available modes is PSK. I've done some reading about PSK, it looks interesting but I'd never tried it. Up till now things had gone way too smoothly and I figured I'd finally run into some problems when I tried to make the PSK software work with the Internet Remote

software. No such luck! The PSK software is already integrated into the Interface. You go into PSK mode and another window comes up that has everything you need to operate PSK. If you want to know more about PSK go to <http://www.google.com/> and search for PSK31. It's a fun digital mode, and works a little like an Internet Chat session.

There is a 60 minute limit on your session. After that you're supposed to get off and let someone else have a turn. From what I could tell, once your time is up, you don't get cut off, but if someone logs in, you'll get booted off the air. I'm not sure about that but, I did get booted off once by someone logging in as guest. Also, while watching a PSK QSO for several minutes, I got an inactivity warning and was told I'd be logged off unless I entered a command. I adjusted the squelch, and it left me alone.

If you have a station in your den, you don't need this. But you should try it just for fun. On the other hand, if your current situation is such that you don't have a station, this is a great way to get on, or back on, the air. You need a PC and an Internet connection. That's it. You will need to install some free software so a public PC, a library PC for instance, is probably out of the question. But, if you can come up with an old PC, you can probably make this happen. If you've got friends that are interested in Ham Radio, but are put off by the cost of a station, they can get started for nothing now. You don't even need a Ham license to use some of the remote stations in receive mode.

Try it out and send me an e-mail telling me what you think. I'm going to go log in to my station in Florida. I might even get on the air this time.

73's Harry Howell KA7ECY
harryhowell@msn.com

SPERRY FAMILY AMBUSHED

I just found out this evening (April 15th) that Chuck Sperry HR1CSS and his family were traveling very early in the morning and were ambushed. I do not have all the details but four of the family were injured. Chuck & Regina have five children and have lived in Honduras for about ten years doing missionary work. Chuck and one of the other family members were shot. (I am assuming one of the children). I heard that Chuck was shot in the head but it was a glancing blow and neither gunshot wound is life threatening. Please pass this information on to the other hams in Iowa. Their family is in need of our prayers. They are presently in the hospital at Guatemala City.

Jeff Winship NØOXK

Note: Doug Shaw sent a note of concern on behalf of ASCRA. The injured Sperry family members are recovering and retain a strong faith. They will continue their work in the same area "until the Lord leads them elsewhere."

PAST- PRESIDENT'S REPORT to the Board of Directors:

Note: *Prior to the 2004 ASCRA meeting, Ernie Miles WB2UJL, made an official announcement that he would not run for re-election as president of ASCRA but that he would continue to be active in other ways (such as directing the 20-m net each Sunday afternoon). We thank Ernie for the years he led ASCRA and we rejoice that he will continue to be an active member.*

1. ASCRA is real, alive and well.
2. ASCRA is an organization, an attitude, a hope and a feeling that is real in the minds of the membership. It's In-Service, nets and activities, can be seen and enjoyed.
3. The interaction of the President with the officers and membership has gone very well in the past year. This is a very pleasant situation when there is both amateur radio and a church relationship to bond us together. Our values and mutual respect for each other are like no other organization with which I have been associated.
4. I look forward to many years of continued involvement with ASCRA under new creative leadership

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest N. Miles,
Past .President,
Ass'n. of Saints Church Radio Amateurs, Inc.

PRESENTATION TO ERNIE

Ernest Miles WB2UJL Michael Hahn KGØXU
Photo by David Gates N5LCL

Presented to Ernest Miles, WB2UJL

In recognition of outstanding service and leadership rendered to the Association in furthering its capabilities for meeting its expressed goals and objectives

President, 1990-2004

Recognized and presented this 27th day of March, 2004 A.D.

Signed by Michael J. Hahn, KGØXU, Executive Director

NEW ASCRA PRESIDENT

At their meeting the afternoon of April 27, 2004, the ASCRA Board of Directors elected Bob Farnham KGØII as the new President of ASCRA. Bob appointed Michael Hahn KGØXU to continue as Executive Director of ASCRA.

NEWLY ELECTED DIRECTORS

The six nominees elected to the Association of Saints Church Radio Amateurs Board of Directors for the 2004-2005 term are:

Hale Collins, W6RWH, Lamoni, Iowa
David Gates, N5LCL, Oklahoma City, OK
Terry Redding, W6LMJ, West Palm Beach, FL
Muir Robinson, W8QK, Bald Knob, AR
Tom Thatcher, W2TFT, Shawano, WI
Fred Troeh, NØELM, Ames, IA

Doug Shaw, WA0EMX, ASCRA Secretary

NEW ASCRA MEMBERS

(located by Michael Hahn)

Earl Gander, KB5YOS (Tech)
209 E. 8th
Los Fresnos, TX 78566-3404
956-233-3010
egander@juno.com

Jackie Kyger, N5ZSU (Tech)
P.O. Box 14
Los Fresnos, TX 78566
956-233-9739
jwkyger@aol.com

David Hoover, KBØCLO (Tech +)
3886 NW 92nd Dr.
Des Moines, IA 50322-2188
515-270-6055
klhoover4@aol.com

In addition to this I found a ham who was not on our roster and who is now deceased.

Daniel Carleton, N8VKV (Tech)
East Lansing, MI
Member of Rose Lake, MI congregation, passed away last summer.

(Located by Hale Collins)

Bob Russell KB9VWF (Extra) and
Joyce M. Russell KB9WFZ (Tech)
20813 Homeland Rd.
Matteson IL 60443-1803
708 748-1108
e-mail joyce-russell@juno.com

PRESENTATION TO JEFF WINSHIP

Ernie Miles WB2UJL Jeff Winship NØOXK
Photo by David Gates N5LCL

Presented to Jeff Winship NØOXK

In recognition of outstanding service rendered to the Association in furthering its capabilities for meeting its expressed goals and objectives

Treasurer, 1996 – 2003

27 day of March, 2004 A.D.

Signed by Ernest Miles, WB2UJL, President
and Michael Hahn, KGØXU, Executive Director

PRESENTATION TO HALE COLLINS

Hale Collins W6RWH Ernie Miles WB2UJL
Photo by David Gates N5LCL

Presented to Hale Collins, W6RWH

In recognition of outstanding service rendered to the Association in furthering its capabilities for meeting its expressed goals and objectives

IN SERVICE EDITOR, 1998-2003

27 day of March, 2004 A.D.

Signed by Ernest Miles, WB2UJL, President
and Michael Hahn, KGØXU, Executive Director

ASCRA Domain

The ascra.org domain would expire April 28 of this year. Today, I renewed the domain with Network Solutions for five years.

Bob Farnham KGØII

ASCRA BOARD NOMINATIONS Due 17 July 2004

Doug Shaw (WA0EMX), ASCRA Secretary requests that members submit nominations to the Board of Directors for the 2005-2006 term. You may make up to six nominations. More than six will invalidate all your nominations.

The following current board members serving for the 2004-2005 term are NOT eligible to be nominated: Hale Collins, W6RWH; David Gates, N5LCL; Terry Redding, W6LMJ; Muir Robinson, W8QK; Tom Thatcher, W2TFT; Fred Troeh, NØELM.

All other members including the following directors whose terms are expiring in the Spring of 2005 are eligible for nomination: Robin Cross, WØFEN; Bob Farnham, KGØII; Michael Hahn, KGØXU; Ernie Miles, WB2UJL; Chuck Palmer, NØONN; Doug Shaw, WAØEMX.

Please confirm willingness to serve prior to nominating. All nominees should be asked to submit a very brief 2-3 sentence bio for publication with the ballots. Such a bio might include license class, year first licensed, and special interests using Amateur Radio (such as any relating to church and community service).

Please send your nominations to be received no later than Saturday, July 17, 2004 to the ASCRA Post Office box or to:

Doug Shaw, WAØEMX
Secretary, ASCRA, Inc.
11312 East 55th Terrace
Raytown, MO 64133-2965
--- or E-mail: wa0emx@arrl.net

LAMONI ECHOLINK PROBLEM

April 30, 2004
Greetings,

I am writing to give you an update on the status of the Lamoni WØYO-L EchoLink. At the current time, the node is off the air. We are attempting to install a new (for us) repeater on 146.730 in Lamoni, and we are experiencing some problems with it. To minimize the number of variables, we decided to take EchoLink off until we get the repeater operating correctly. Please forward this message to others who may not have received it.

May 11, 2004

The Lamoni Amateur Radio Association, a chapter of ASCRA, is still working toward getting a new [for us] repeater operational. In the meantime, I have re-enabled EchoLink to operate on 146.730 simplex in Lamoni. So if anyone is monitoring the repeater frequency they will hear an EchoLink station. Thank you and 73 de kgØii,

Bob Farnham

IN-SERVICE

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and material for future issues to:

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