HAM

RADIO

NEWS

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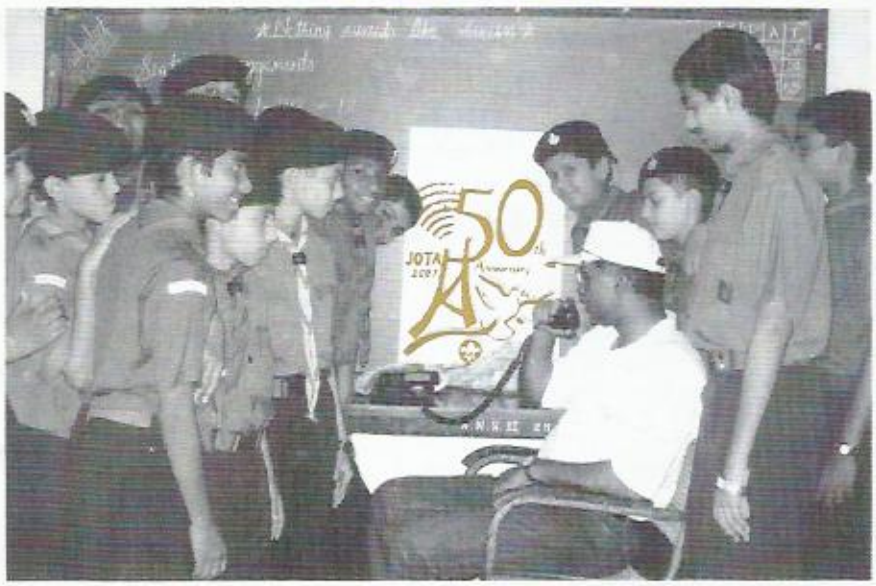
"AMATEUR RADIO - A NATIONAL RESOURCE"

50 th Year of JOTA



Unity Is The Motto

JOTA IN MUMBAI

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear members

This is the first issue of HRN after the AGM held in Bangalore in 2007 and the first issue for this calendar year.

I welcome the new members on the Governing Council and hope that they will contribute substantially in promoting amateur radio in their respective areas.

A mass mailer was sent out to as many as 10,000 VU licensees listed in an effort to get as many as possible to revive their activities. Many have acknowledged the letter and agreed to activate their memberships and also become active on the air. Unfortunately a large number were returned as addresses had changed or were incomplete. We hope to do the mailing again after verifying addresses over the next few months.

ARSI is planning quite a few contests in 2008 and also many activities and we hope that a large number of VU hams will participate.

I would like to wish all of you and your families, a very happy festive season and a Very Happy, Prosperous and, most importantly, Healthy New Year.

THE EDITOR SPEAKS

Greetings of the season!!!

This year has bought with it some wonderful news in the ham front. A new DXCC entity has been added, which gives all of us an opportunity to chase it!!!! The Band conditions have not been too favourable till now, but 2008 has predictions of a change in the solar cycle so things should get more interesting.

The past year has been very hectic on the personal front for me. With my children becoming adults and flying the coop, I have taken on additional responsibilities in the family business and have become a very busy person!! But I always find time to pursue my hobby.

The HRN needs valuable oxygen in terms of advertisements. I appeal to all you to make an attempt to get the HRN some ads. Besides that, as usual I appeal to all of you to send articles, news, snippets to be published. This magazine is a window to the happenings in VU land. Please share your knowledge with your friends through the HRN.

Here's wishing all of you a very happy and prosperous new year 2008.

Stay cheerful and happy hamming!

73

Sarla

Sarla

Silent Key

OM NEEL, VU2LN, passed away on 4th December evening at Thiruvananthapuram. He was licenced since 50yrs (Licence No 273) and was a good cw operator and very good rag chewer. His command over the English language was admirable. He was the Chief Engineer for Kerala Electricity Board. He is survived by his wife and three sons.

OM Madan Mohan Prasad (VU2MLJ, ex. VU2MMP) became Silent Key on December 24,2007. Fundamental of Rajani, VU3CAV and Ramani, VU2VLX, Madan Ji was a pioneering ham in Bihar. He was an ardent homebrewer too and instrumental in promoting the hobby through his 'Marconi Radio Club'. He always provided on-the-air help during demos for the children. Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

OM Yathe 9V1JY, who passed away in Singapore. He had been ailing for a while.

OM Yan VU2KNK became a silent key on December 26 2007 around 0800 hrs.

He operated from VU2CBE the club station at Coimbatore for several years and trained innumerable hams in Coimbatore. He was also one of the most well known net controllers both on VHF and HF.

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All payments to be made to the ARSI (Administrative Office) at Bangalore. Payment should be made by demand draft or cheque to ARSI, payable at Bangalore. For cheque payments please add Rs. 40/-.

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Membership Category	Admission Fees(Rs)	Annual Fees(Rs)
Patron	25,000	Nil
Life	4,000	Nil
Corporate (Individual with Valid Amateur Licence)	50	250
Corporate (Club, Society or Institution with Licence)	100	1000

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Hamfest India 2007 was held on 8th and 9th December 2007 in Sri Venkateswara Vignana Mandiram, Guntur. The event was innagurated by Mr.Kanna Nagaraju, Mayor, Guntur Corporation. Mr.Kanna Nagaraju praised Ham Radio Operators work in various calamities and was inspired to become a Ham.

The following papers were presented during the event Mr.Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN - "HF E-Mail (Winlink) with live demonstration "

Mr. Thyagarajan, VU2PTR - "Frequency Locked Loop"

Ms. D.Sri latha, S.W.L - "MICROPROCESSOR"

Mr. VNVLN. ACHARYULU, S.W.L and Mr. KISHORE KUMAR K, S.W.L -"F M TRANSMITTER AND RECEIVER"

Mr. BBBR. BRAHMAM, S.W.L - "POWER AND LIFE SAVER"

Mr. Farhan - BITX Transceiver

Mr. K. RAMAKRISHNA RAO, VU2RMU - Echolink with live demonstraion

Mr. A. Mohan Raj, VU2AMJ - Amateur Radio License Procedure.

The event had more than 150 registrations inspite of the short notice and was covered well in local news channels and national news papers.. After discussions, it was decided to hold the next Hamfest in 2008 in Gujarat.

A series of ham radio awareness programmes were conducted in and around Delhi led by VU2MUE,)M Sandeep from November 16 to 19, 2007 on the occasion of programmes organized by Vigyan Prasar [Including programmes at Railway Museum, Blue Bell Public School, Gurgaon and Uttam Public School Girls, Shastri Nagar, Ghaziabad] Frank [VU2XLZ], Kumar [VU2XD], Karan [VU3GTF], Sunil [VU2UKR] and Surender [VU2SUH] provided on-the-air support during the demos. The demos were successful due to their continuous on-the-air support.

To celebrate the Birth Anniversary of India's great scientist and inventor Shri. Jagadish Chandra Bose, which falls on November 30th 2007 a special call sign was operated from 25th November 2007 to 02nd December 2007. Hams involved in this effort along with their special calls are VU2SMN -AU7JCB, VU2DCT- AT0JCB, VU2DSI - AU2JCB, VU2SDF- AU8JCB, VU2HFR - AU4JCB, VU2UR- AU1JCB, VU2SMS- AU9JCB. They were qrv on all the bands in SSB, CW and digital modes. A special QSL card has been organized for this call. Sir J. C. Bose whose devotion and dedication to science was solely for the love of science and who spread his knowledge to entire mankind for the good of the human race without thinking of any personal benefit. He never aspired for money nor fame and thus has not being given due recognition for his scientific endeavors which led to the discovery and advancement of radio communication as we know today. The man was far ahead of his times and even today his work on millimetric waves is being utilised in radio telescopes.

On the occasion of National Disaster Reduction Day being celebrated, a Special Event Station AT7CD was operated from 15th to 17th November 2007 from the venue of the International Exhibition and Seminar at auditorium of St. Joseph's Indian Boy's High School, Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore. The Amateur (Ham) Radio Volunteers who worked the special call were VU2JHM - Ajoy ; VU2UR - Manohar (Arasu) ; VU2GGM - Girimaji ; VU2LNN -Nagesh ; VU2LX - Lakshman ; VU2POP - Pratap ; VU2GUR - Guru ; VU2QNY -Ismail ; VU2LU - Ramesh ; VU3NOI - Suresh ; VU2CML - Satish ; VU3HDP Suresh ; VU3HDK - Sridhar and SWL122 Yugadhi. The same group participated in the 3rd Emergency Communication Party on the Air from their respective home QTH as Emergency Communication Exercise on 11th November 2007. A Special Postal Cover with Special Postal Cancellation on occasion of "National Disaster Reduction Day" was issued by the Postal Authorities on 15th Novemeber 2007 with efforts from VU2LCI Lions International Stamp Club - LISC India Chapter # 3. A special QSL card will be issued for this call.

VU2JAU, OM Jayu who was the official ARSI station participating in the III Emergency Communication Party of the IARU region 3, also participated in the Disaster Reduction Day exercise.

Bangalore Amateur Radio Club organized 9th VHF Night Foxhunt in a very big way. The Results are First Place VU2POP Pratap and VU3GFF Santosh (Time Taken 3 Hours 2 Minutes) - Two Wheeler Team, Second Place - VU3TYG Nitin and VU3HCJ Soms (Time Taken 3 Hours 8 Minutes)- Two Wheeler Team and the Third Place winning team are VU3CPB - Suresh and VU2BJZ Biju. (Time taken 4 Hours 8 Minutes) VU3DGK Om Dinesh Gundurao MLA flagged off this adventure event from Tranquil Motors Private Limited and he tried out the All Terrain Vehicle. Sponsorship was organized for T Shirts and. Lion Suresh - VU3HDP sponsored the food.

Coimbatore Amateur Radio Club, Coimbatore organized 7th VHF Fox Hunt on 07.10.2007. This year it was conducted by last year winners VU2 GVG, VU2 MCL, VU2 CTN (FOX). The Fox hole was about 30 Kms. South West of VU2 CBE Coimbatore Club Station. The

(Cont.on page no 16)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The ARRL DXCC Desk is pleased to announce the addition of St Barthelemy (FJ) to the DXCC List, making the island entity number 338 with an effective date of 14 December, 2007. Cards with contacts dated December 14, 2007 or after will be accepted for DXCC credit. New card submissions for St Barthelemy will not be accepted until January 1, 2008 in order to allow time for administrative adjustments. Prefix FJ, Country Name Saint Barthelemy CQ Zone 8, Start date Probably February 22, 2007, QSL Bureau (REF France) UTC Offset 4 hours behind UTC, IOTA NA-146, ITU Zone 11 Continent North America Longitude 62.83 West Latitude 17.92 North. Other islands that will count for Saint Barthelemy Chevreau, Coco, Fourchue, Fregate, La Tortue, Le Boulanger, Pain de Sucre, Pele and Toc Vers.

A ham radio operator in Bhutan has been ordered off the air by that nations telecommunications authority. This after regulators allege that he was operating power in excess of what is allowed under Bhutani law. It all took place back in September but the news is now only reaching the rest of the world. That's when Akira Minagawa, A52AM, was asked to surrender his Amateur radio license and remove his antennas after Bhutan's Infocomm and Media Authority cancelled it because he had allegedly violated the nations ham radio rules. According to the Director General of the regulatory agency, A52AM was found to have exceeded the prescribed power limit of 100 watts. That's the power level that radio amateur radio operators have to comply within the country. But the Director General claims that Minagawa was operating at 1,000 watts which is 10 times the maximum power allowed. He added that A52AM did not maintain a properly detailed log book of his communications.But some observers are saying that there is another reason Minagawa was taken off the air. They believe he could have been targeted by authorities because his station may have been causing interference to Bhutan's military and airport communications systems. Unlike in other nations, Amateur radio isn't very popular in Bhutan. There are only about 20 resident radio amateurs and 50 non-national users according to one Media Authority official.

An interesting enforcement issue from Sri Lanka. Victor Goonetilleke, 4S7VK, Secretary of the Radio Society of Sri Lanka reports that a Ukranian Ham using the call sign 4S7DXG is an illegal operation. According to Victor, the ham in question had a Sri Lankan callsign from a previous occasion. This time he did appy for a renewal which has yet to be granted by the Ministry of Defense. Goonetilleke says that the operator named Ivan is claiming to be on the air from Barbaryn Island buit he is not there. He says that going to that island requires special clearance from the Harbour Master which he has not received. No one is permitted to land without this clearance. 4S7VK says that he really operating from elsewhere in Sri Lanka, again without a valid license. He adds that any QSO's with him hold no validity.

After twenty five years at Potters Bar, England, the Radio Society of Great Britain is moving its headquarters to Bedford. A report on the RSGB website says: that a combination of modern I-T technology and business practice, mean that its current location in Lambda House is no longer cost effective to run as the society's headquarters. Also, due to the age of the building it is proving increasingly costly to maintain. The move, which the Society hopes to complete by March 2008, will also involve a relocation of its museum, ham shack and library. The Society is in the process of purchasing a modern office building located on the Priory Park, Business Park on the eastern side of the city of Bedford. This will house the administration operation. Discussions are also taking place with the Bletchley Park Trust organisation. The aim of these talks is to establish a heritage center dedicated to Amateur Radio and the RSGB at Bletchley Park. It is envisaged that the Bletchley Park site will be the center of the Society's training activities and will also be the home of the RSGB HQ station GB3RS which it is hoped will be on the air daily. Bletchley Park is an estate located in the town of Bletchley, in Buckinghamshire, England. It was the location of the United Kingdom's main code breaking establishment that helped defeat the Nazi axis during World War II,.. More about the proposed move is on line at the Radio Society of Great Britain website. Its in cyberspace at www.rsgb.org

Irish amateurs expect to be granted a general allocation at 70MHz in the very neatr future. At the same time they will also have an experimental allocation at 5MHz. The Irish 5 MHz band will likely be comprises four 3 kHz wide channels centered on 5.280, 5.290, 5.400 and 5.405 MHz. These will be available for a one year initial trial period and individual applications to use the band will be required. The maximum power allowed will be 200 watts to an antenna with not more than 0dBd gain, such as a dipole. Some or all of these frequencies are also in use in the U-K, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Canada and the USA. It is anticipated that the permits could be issued at the end of November or early December. Also, permission for a new 5 MHz beacon in Ireland has already been granted., Only a call sign and frequency are being awaited before it takes to the air.

In recent hurricane Dean there has been severe damage to Aves island. The 99% of island is under water permanently. Please read latest info on website www.yv0.info

The big news for amateur radio is that a worldwide secondary allocation of 135.7-137.8kHz has been approved. This marks the first time since allocations to radio services began that the amateur service has had an allocation below the medium wave broadcasting band. The effective date is not yet set and in any case amateurs must wait until their own administrations authorise the new allocation before they can use it. Some administrations, while not wishing to block the

international allocation, have indicated a reluctance to implement it in their countries because of various interference concerns. The band is already available in the UK and several other European countries and this paves the way for many more countries to become active on Low Frequency.

Radio Amateurs of Canada has announced that effective immediately, the Incoming QSL Manager for the VA5 through VE5 region is Joe Musgrave, VA5JM. Musgrove who also holds the call VE5CEM can be reached by e-mail to ve5cem@sasktel.net

The South Africa Radio League says that a government Standards Liaison Committee has approved the draft interim Power Line Telecommunications or Broadband over Powerline in that nation. One that contains some protection against Broadband over Powerline interference to that nations ham radio community. One of the committee's recommendations is that only class B limits will apply as the minimum requirements. The class B limit for conducted disturbance is some 10dB more stringent than class A. As you might imagine, the BPL industry had asked that class A limits apply in industrial areas and at sub-stations. This is a request that the South Africa, Radio League opposed at the committee stage, But the SARL is however not satisfied that compulsory notching of the Amateur High Frequency bands was included in the draft standards. At the comment stage the national society says that it will submit documentation in support of its position that all amateur H-F bands must be notched and that the minimum 10dB notching level be increased to a higher value. The interim South African interim Broadband over Powerline standards will be in force until international standards have been agreed on.

Amateur Radio restructuring continues in South Africa. This with word that the South Africa Radio League will now issue the nations Radio Amateur Exam certificates following an agreement having been finalized with that nations telecommunications regulator. Candidates who pass the South African Class A Amateur Examination will be issued an international certificate. This document allows operation in all CEPT countries and several others outside Europe who are complying with the conditions of the internationally accepted examination. Those who pass the introductory level Class B examination will be issued a Radio Amateur Exam certificate only. The class B examination is not compliant and the license issued for passing it cannot be used for operation in other countries.

The Secretary-General Hamadoun Touré, announced at the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference , that he had earned his amateur license with call sign HB9EHT. The amateur services have been quite visible at the conference in other ways: The special WRC-07 issue of ITU News includes an article under Larry Price's byline setting out amateur radio's aspirations for the conference. An amateur radio emergency communications trailer brought from Germany was on display during the first ten days of the conference, parked strategically on the walkway between the conference center and the adjacent ITU building. A full-color explanation of amateur radio's emergency communications capabilities and an invitation to visit the trailer was distributed in the delegates' pigeonholes by the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau, as well as some additional information about the amateur services, resulting in a steady stream of visitors. The IARU WRC-07 pin is a popular collectible and was displayed on many lapels and lanyards around the conference center. The IARU hosted a very successful reception for 200 key delegates on the evening of 31 October in the ITU cafeteria. The International Amateur Radio Club (IARC) station, 4U1ITU, operated under the special call sign 4U1WRC. The station sported new antennas that were erected especially for the conference. Progress on the agenda items of interest to the amateur services has been slow. The 4-10 MHz issue is bogged down, with opponents of HF broadcasting expansion holding fast to a position of "no change." HF BC proponents are not nearly as numerous as in 2003 and are mainly in Europe; they have backed off from an initial position of 350 kHz of expansion down to 200 kHz, but there has not yet been any movement from the other side. In the meantime work on the other 4-10 MHz issues, including the possibility of a 5-MHz secondary amateur allocation (which so far is supported by the European BC proponents), cannot progress Early On the week it appeared that the issue of a 135.7-137.8 kHz secondary allocation to the amateur service had been settled favorably. However, it turned out that the concerns of some Arab administrations had not been fully satisfied and more work needed to be done. On Friday morning, 2 November the allocation was approved at the Working Group 4C level with two footnotes, one of which limits power to 1 watt e.i.r.p. and a second that allows countries in Region 1 to opt out of the allocation if they wish. Saudi Arabia repeated its opposition to the allocation and requested that this be noted in the Working Group's report to Committee 4. The allocation still has to be approved by Committee 4 and the Plenary. The process of identifying possible frequency bands for future international mobile telecommunications (cell phones and beyond) is very contentious. One frequency range examined is 2.3-2.4 GHz,which of course is of concern to us although there is no immediate cause for alarm.

The weekend that changed Amateur Radio In the weekend, October 26-28 AMSAT-NA held a very successful Space Symposium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Rick Hambly, W2GPS, AMSAT President along with Bob McGwier, N4HY, AMSAT Vice-President of Engineering were able to make public the results of their recent work which will change the face of amateur radio going forward. AMSAT has been in consultation with Intelsat regarding an application of an Intelsat platform carrying our amateur radio satelites into geosynchronous orbit. Engineering studies, funding studies, among other negotiations are continuing at this point. However Bob, N4HY made the following observation of the project AMSAT has termed Phase IV

Lite, "There is enough in place at this time that AMSAT needs to begin planning engineering work and possible construction of a geosychronous payload so we are ready if Intelsat says they have a ride for us." The Phase IV Lite Geosynchronous Payload is planned to consist of similar transponders already under development for the Phase 3 satellites. Accelerated development on the digital Advanced Communication Package is anticipated. In addition to the communication payload flown to space, AMSAT plans to develop an earth station attainable by the average ham so that users can immediately take advantage of the audio, digital messaging, and video services. The Advanced Communication Package would be a self-contained earth station which could be sent with amateur radio communication teams or delivered to disaster areas for 24/7/365 emergency communications. These teams would be able to point a small dish at a predictable spot in the sky and immediately begin delivering disaster communication support without depending on HF propagation. A Phase IV payload could also be used to provide TDRSS-like relay of ARISS communications. The 10 minute school contact could now be expanded to hours-long contact with the International Space Station. This opens possibilities for student involvement with experiments aboard the space station. The Intelsat geosynchronous platform would be able to provide the AMSAT Phase IV Lite payload with approximately 400 watts of DC power for 15 years. The primary payload would also perform the GTO boost phase as well as perform station keeping and antenna pointing once it has arrived on station. Bob, N4HY summarized, "The Intelsat team would be doing all the things nearly impossible for amateurs and that enables AMSAT to do what we do best ... build a communication system that changes amateur radio for the better!" More details will be published in upcoming editions of the AMSAT Journal. Meantime, shortwave broadcasters such as the B-B-C and defense users such as the United States Navy are expected to battle over spectrum used for high-frequency communications in the 4 to 10 MHz bands at the upcoming World Radiocommunications Conference. Shortwave broadcasters want to use this band to replace their analog broadcasts with a new digital service that will provide near FM-radio quality using Digital Radio Mondiale technology. But the Navy wants to use these same High Frequency bands to support the broadcast of data over new IP-based services at far less cost than sending data by satellite. Richard Russell is the associate director for technology in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. He predicts that with the exception of some European Union countries that most nations are heading into the WRC 2007 aligned with the U.S. position. That is to not allow an expansion of shortwave broadcasting in the newly defined HF band.

The United Nations Staff Recreation Council Amateur Radio Club (4U1UN) at the United Nations building in New York City used a special call 4U50SPACE in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Sputnik launch. N2UN, Tony, and LA5IIA, Johnny, were active on various bands. Special QSLs will be available via the 4U1UN QSL manager HB9BOU.

McMaster research engineer Professor Natalia Nikolova, and her husband Robert Zimmerman, have verified the existence of a new type of radio wave called the Vector Potential Wave. This wave was first predicted in 1880 by British mathematician James Clerk Maxwell, but had never been directly detected until this summer here on McMaster campus in the Communications Research Lab. Dr. Nikolova comments, "One of the most enigmatic predictions of Maxwell was his concept of the magnetic vector potential. Until recently,most engineers believed it was only a mathematical concept with no physical reality. Now, more than 125 years later, we have realized a magnetic vector potential detector which allows measuring the wave at any distance from a microwave antenna".

Nikolova and her husband have been working on this development nearly 2 years. Zimmerman feels that the new discovery will ultimately lead to radio and television transmissions which do not require energy. On a more fundamental level, he added, "Maxwell was correct all along". The novelty of the discovery is that while the transmission requires very little energy, the reception of the wave requires that an active battery operated receiver be used. This is distinct from usual AM radio transmissions, where much energy is radiated by the transmitter, and the receiver can be a 'crystal set' with no battery. The detector developed by the research team is a plasma device looking like a fluorescent tube which displays super-conducting properties for radio signals. Nikolova is quick to add, "The device is at room temperature but acts like a superconductor, as predicted by Fritz London in 1930". Nikolova and Zimmerman plan on submitting their results this week to the research journal THE PHYSICAL REVIEW of the American Physical Society.

Turning to ham radio political news, word that the opening Plenary of the 16th General Assembly of International Amateur Radio Union for Region 2 was held on Monday morning, September 10th in Brazil. As the gathering got underway, Region 2 President Rod Stafford, W6ROD noted the success that Region 2 has enjoyed in relations with CITEL and the Caribbean Telecommunications Union. He also noted the challenges that must be faced. This, by urging member societies to do more to promote Amateur Radio in their countries and by finding ways to more effectively represent the radio amateurs of countries where the IARU member-society is not sufficiently active on their behalf.

ANATEL President Ambassador Ronaldo Sardenberg then spoke as the representative of Brazil's Minister of Communications. He said that he was pleased to report that Amateur Radio is growing in his nation, with 36,000 active operators. Also, that an Amateur Radio school is being launched in conjunction with Parana University as an initiative that it is hoped will be replicated throughout the country. He was also pleased that the Brazilian telecommunications administration supports

the Amateur service in its desire for a low-frequency allocation.

Ambassador Sardenberg also provided some detail of an investigation of radio interference from power line communications systems. He said that initial tests showed a great potential for interference, but more recent tests show some improvement and he expressed optimism that a way will be found to allow BPL to be deployed without endangering radio services. The final speaker during the opening Plenary was International Amateur Radio Union Vice President Tim Ellam, VE6SH. Ellam said that the IARU has a number of objectives for the upcoming 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference. He also noted that he is chairing a committee that is developing a proposal for a substantive restructuring of the IARU so that it will be better able to meet future challenges.

We will not hear S21AR on the band anymore. We, all the members of Bangladesh Amateur Radio League, do not have words to condole the demise of vice president and BARL's lifetime member, S21AR - Abdur Rashid who passed away on 10 September (Monday), 2007 at 6 am at his Uttar Khan residence. The 80-year-old HAM, S21AR, had passed most of his lifetime in promoting the movement of Amateur Radio at home and abroad. We, with appreciation from the core of our heart, recall S21AR's contribution to the overall activities of BARL and the ham movement in Bangladesh.

A new study conducted in South Korea suggests children who live close to an AM radio transmission tower may have an elevated risk of leukemia. According to Radio World, researchers found that children who lived within 2 kilometers of an AM radio transmitter were twice as likely to develop lymphocytic leukemia as children who lived more than 20 kilometers away. The study included 1,928 children with leukemia, 956 with brain cancer and 3,082 healthy children. The researchers took measurements of electric and magnetic fields surrounding AM transmission towers in various areas of South Korea. They then used a mathematical model to estimate residents' exposure to radiation from the towers. The findings were published in the American Journal of Epidemiology.

The latest Nordic High Frequency Conference was held August 14th to the 17th. The 3 day program covers Very Low Frequency, Low Frequency as well as High Frequency operations. The conference was initially planned for a limited audience of Nordic countries now. It has since gone international with contributions of papers, exhibits and participants from around the globe.

The Nordic conferences on H-F communications began back in 1986 in Sweden. Since then the event has been held every 3 years at Faro Island off Sweden's south-eastern coast. More about the Nordic HF Conference is on-line at www.nordichf.org/

QSL cards of stations of Portugal, Azores and Madeira, prefixes CQ0 to CQ9, CR0 to CR9, CS0 to CS9, CT0 to CT9 and CU0 to CU9 should be sent to the following address: REP - REDE DOS EMISSORES PORTUGUESES Rua D. Pedro V, 7-4 1250-092 LISBOA PORTUGAL

HQ Stations - VK4WIA/D, ARANC FK8KAB/D, ARSI VU2JAU, CRSA BY1RX, HARTS VR2HK/D, JARL JA1RL/D, NZART ZL6R/D and PARA DV1JM/D all IARU R3 member societies responded to the invitation to participate in the Third EmComm Party on 11 November.

N6OX to lead Clipperton2008 Dxpedition: Bob Grimmick, N6OX, will lead an international team to Clipperton Atoll in early March 2008. On the 30th anniversary of the 1978 FO0XA-XH dxpedition to Clipperton Atoll, the goal of the dxpedition is to make 100,000+ qso's worldwide. Organization and management provided by John Kennon, N7CQQ, David Anderson, K4SV. Major sponsors include Icom America, Northern California DX Foundation, SteppIR, Acom and the International DX Association.

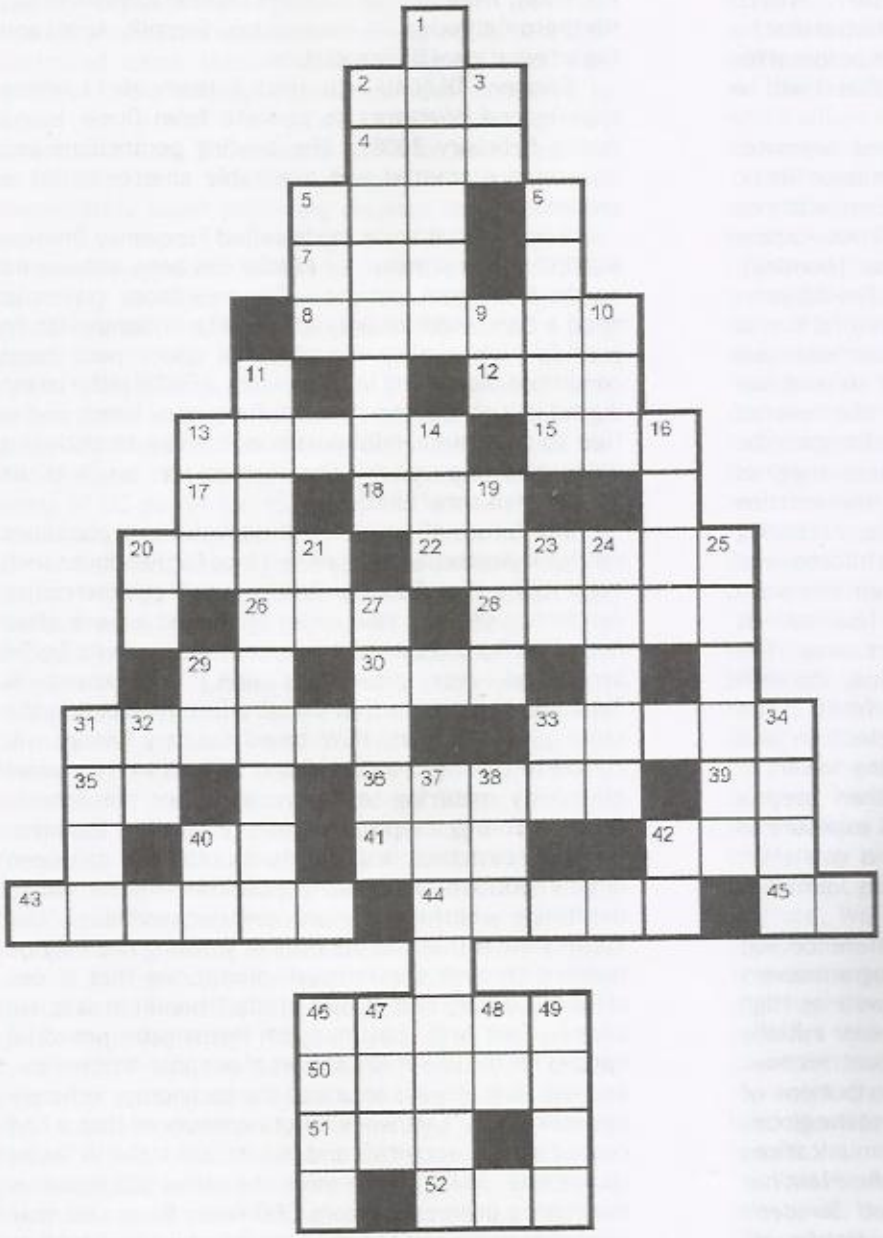
Carsten, DL6LAU will lead a team of 13 highly experienced operators to operate from Ducie Island during February 2008. The landing permissions and licenses are granted and a suitable charter vessel is secured.

A new Digital Voice mode called Frequency Division Multiplex Digital Voice or FDMDV has been announced on the N1SU.com website. The new mode claims to need a bandwidth of only 1100 Hertz of bandwidth to provide high quality digital voice under poor band conditions. According to its creators, FDMDV is the latest digital voice mode on the High Frequency bands and is free to try. More information and a link to both the download ite and user forum is on-line at http://n1su.com/fdmdv

The future of powerline broadband as a consumer service in Australia has been cast into further doubt with suggestions that Country Energy won't commercialise residential services now under trial. Just a week after news that Aurora Energy has pulled the pin on its TasTel broadband over powerlines (BPL) experiment in Tasmania, it appears that Country Energy could do the same. Queanbeyan, NSW based Country Energy will complete testing broadband and VoIP, as well as smart electricity metering to 300 homes later this month. Country Energy corporate strategy GM Ben Hamilton said that customer response to its offerings had been largely positive but that a post-trial review would determine whether they proceed commercially. "Our initial view is that the benefits of utilising BPL may be realised through the network monitoring that it can offer to Country Energy as a utility," Hamilton said. He added, "we will continue to investigate potential options for the use of BPL as part of our post-trial review, and will look at ways to utilise the technology in future network trials."Last week Aurora announced that it had ceased all BPL activities and put its 50% stake in TasTel up for sale. AAPT, which owns the other 50% share, is monitoring progress. Aurora CEO Peter Davis said that narrow margins and federal broadband policies such as the Broadband Connect regional infrastructure grant had made a consumer BPL offering untenable. Aurora will continue with fibre network deployments to serve wholesale customers. While casting doubt on the viability of consumer PBL services, Hamilton expects Country Energy to continue development of technologies that help it to remote manage and monitor

(Cont.on page no 16)

PUZZLE



Across

2 Units of reactive power (3)

4 A very small unit of energy (3)

5 The single tube in most oscilloscopes (3)

7 VFO with a tunable inductor (3)

8 Only one (6)

12 First commercial logic family (3)

13 Holding off the sweep (5)

15 Measure of solar irradiation (abbr) (3)

17 Between VE and XE (abbr) (2)

18 One side of a rhombic (3)

20 Enlarge or shrink (4)

22 Repetitive convert to digital data (6)

26 Laughing hard (abbr) (3)

28 Where cooling air goes (5)

29 Thanks! (CW abbr) (2)

30 Possess (3)

31 Large or big antenna array (6)

33 Remove the finish (5)

35 Ionizing solar radiation (abbr) (2)

36 Manufactured classic twins (5)

39 Needed for strong bones (chemical symbol) (2)

40 Abbreviation for what's generated by transmitters (2)

41 Cheating is one of these (3)

42 Key that gets you out of something (3)

43 Multiple receivers that choose the strongest signal (6)

44 Post-holiday state of torpor (5)

45 Prefix of Turkmenistan (2)

46 Soon to be an open sea (5)

50 Circular chart (5)

51 Unlicensed band (abbr) (3)

52 What the complete antenna system radiates (3)

Down

1 Hams always keep the originals (6)

2 Common name for quarter-wave antenna (8)

3 Begins most coax designators (2)

5 Old frequency abbreviation before MHz (3)

6 Measure of potential (5)

9 Abbreviation for a tube's control element (2)

10 Both a frequency range and Santa's helper (3)

11 Ability to discern between measured values (10)

13 A pair (3)

14 Morse abbreviation is "C" (3)

16 Not doing anything (4)

19 Amplification factor (4)

20 Prefix of British military base in Meditteranean (2)

21 Show-me state (postal code) (2)

23 Home of Lake Wobegon (postal code) (2)

24 Another name for tube anode (5)

25 Rules for fairness and honesty (6)

27 An antenna accepting power (5)

29 Prefix of transceivers made by 36 Across (2)

31 QSL service (abbr) (4)

32 Car that runs only on batteries (abbr) (2)

33 Prosign to end a contact (2)

34 Rate of making contacts (4)

37 Time it takes a signal to increase to a certain level (two words) (8)

38 Circuit that restricts noise (3)

40 Constant used to calculate reactance (2)

42 Electromagnetic field components (2)

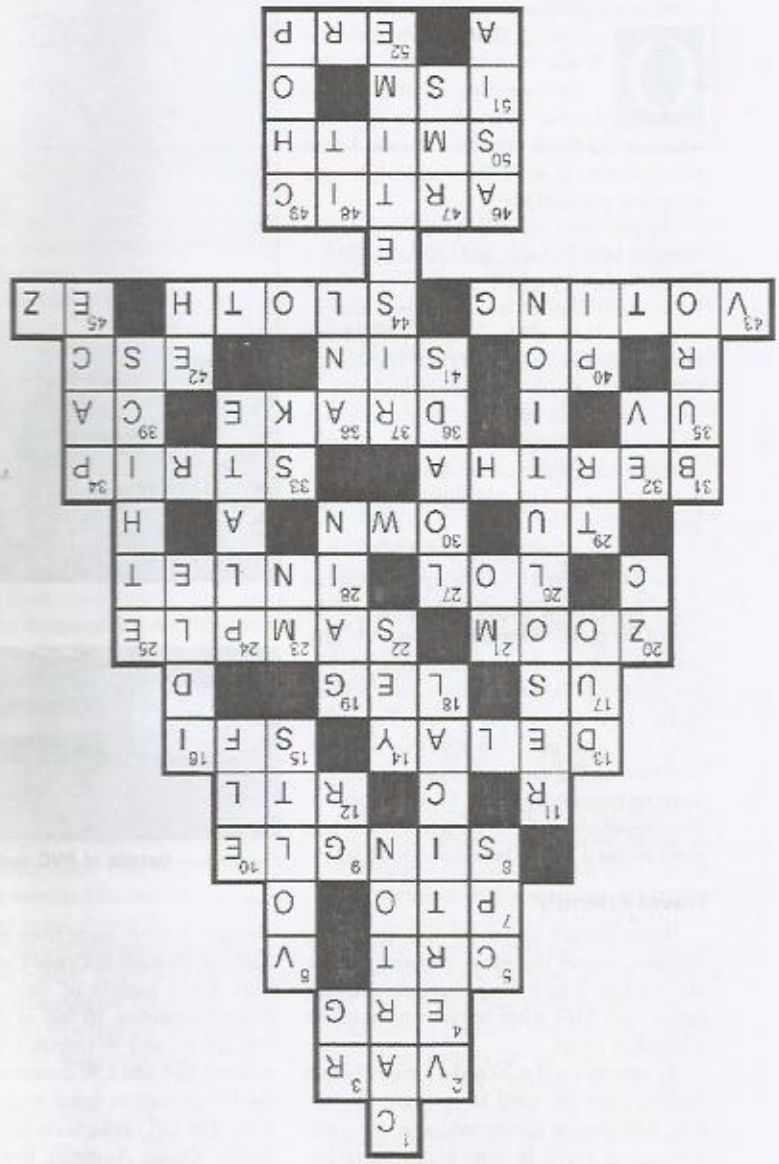
46 Largest continent (4)

47 Effective energy content of a waveform (3)

48 Network manager's department (2)

49 Switch scope display between two channels very rapidly (4)

SOLUTION



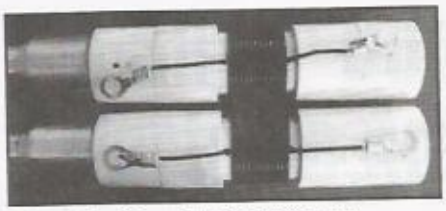


Figure 4 — Completed loading coil assemblies.

Table 3
Antenna Tuning Chart Settings and Resulting SWR

Band	Tune Frequency (MHz)	Max SWR	Coil	Whip Length
20 Meters	14.2	1.4:1	Yes	118"
17 Meters	18.11	1.0:1	Yes	78½"
15 Meters	21.15	1.1:1	No	99"
12 Meters	24.94	1.2:1	No	78"
10 Meters	28.8	1.2:1	No	64"

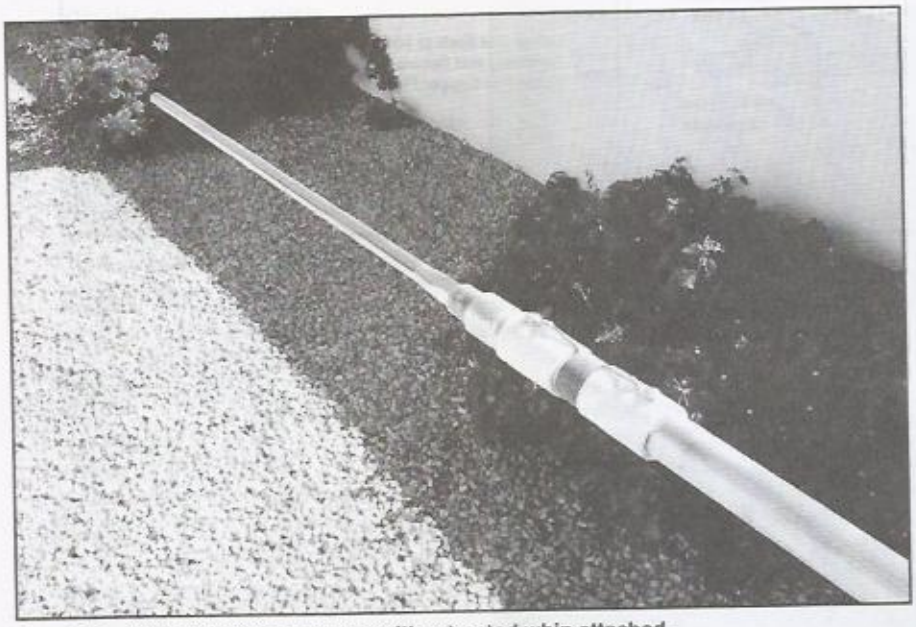


Figure 5 — One side of the antenna with retracted whip attached.

choke, you can use a 1:1 balun such as the one in Figure 6 that I made with a T200-2 toroid, a couple of feet of enameled wire and some odds and ends I had in my junk box.

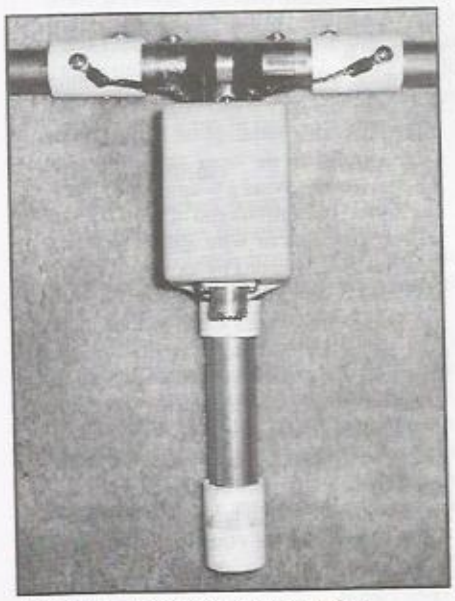


Figure 6 — Dipole feed connection — toroid balun option shown.

From May 2007 QST © ARRL

Tuning it Up

Table 3 provides the data required to adjust the antenna for all five bands. You will likely want to adjust the length to whip at each noted frequency and record the length that provides a 1:1 SWR, since your construction might be different than mine. With the antenna adjusted to the frequency shown it should provide an acceptable SWR across each band, no greater than the *Max SWR* shown in the table.

If you were going to operate most of the time close to 14.000 kHz on CW and the band edge SWR of 1:4 is excessive for your radio, it can be corrected very easily by slightly lengthening the whip length to obtain a 1:1 SWR in the CW portion. On the other hand if you want to adjust for a 1:1 SWR at around 14.350 you can make the same type of a slight adjustment, this time by shortening the MFJ whips. By using this same technique on any band there is no need to bring along any bulky heavy antenna tuner on your camping adventure.

Hoisting it Up

There are many ways of installing such an antenna in a portable environment. There are tripod mounts, improvised railing supports and many types of telescoping support poles available from a number of manufacturers. I have had good results using a Model 5216 telescoping fiberglass pole manufactured by Hastings. These are available at electrical supply houses. There are other similar types sold by a number of Amateur Radio dealers.

In my usual installation, I have secured a short piece of CPVC tubing on the top telescoping section. On the other end of this short piece, I insert it into a CPVC coupling that is part of the T section on my antenna. I have also used short pieces of aluminum tubing fastened together made from old antenna beam elements. Even short pieces of inexpensive CPVC pipe will do for a 4 to 5 foot mast.

For the base, I often use a folding portable flood light base I picked up at a yard sale. If packing in by foot, I leave the base at home and use available supports such as tree stumps to hold up the mast by securing with a piece of small rope. With this method, one can set up this antenna within 5 minutes.

One final bit of advice — please be careful when setting up your antennas wherever you are. Before erecting any type antenna always make it a habit to look for any electrical wires above and 360° around you.

Clarke Cooper, K8BP, has been a ham since 1961 and holds an Amateur Extra class license. Clarke has a degree in electrical engineering and has spent most of his career designing manufacturing plants and automated control systems. He retired in 2001 as Project Manager for Federal Mogul.

He is a Life Member and a four term president of the Muskegon Area Amateur Radio Council in Muskegon, Michigan. He is also a member of the Thunderbird Amateur Radio Club in Phoenix, Arizona. He especially enjoys mentoring new hams and operating QRP on both CW and SSB.

Over the years, Clarke has had the pleasure of sending out over 30,000 QSL cards. He is a member of ARRL, QCWA, ARES, RACES, Fists and Adventure Radio Society. During the summer you can reach Clarke at 4202 E Pontaluna Rd, Fruitport, MI and in the winter at 17237 North 15th Pl, Phoenix, AZ 85022 or by e-mail at **k8bp@earthlink.net.** QST

This year happens to be the 50th anniversary of JOTA.As such this event was celebrated with much fervour in India and all over the world. Also called Radio Scouting, there were a number of new activities planned worldwide for this event.

Bangalore Amateur Radio Club VU2ARC along with Lions Clubs International Amateur (Ham) Radio Club VU2LCI with the approval of the Indian Postal Authorities Karnataka Postal Circle released a Special Postal Cover on 20th October 2007, which is multicolored denoting the Scout Centenary 2007 and World Scout Jamboree on the Air 50th Anniversary JOTA 2007 by Bharat Scouts & Guides, Karnataka INDIA de VU2LCI with VU2ARC. The Special Postal Cancellation depicts the Radio Scouting Logo giving callsigns of VU2ARC and VU2LCI. This is the first postal special cover and special postal cancellation with callsigns on them from India.

JOTA -VK HIGH SCHOOL, PANVEL

Last year 2006, was the first time JOTA was introduced in Raigad district of Maharashtra. The VK Highschool, Panvel and Technologist Association of Panvel invited VU2NXM, OM Basappa to host JOTA for the scouts of Panvel. It was well executed and the private TV channels aired the event. More than 200 boys and girls were trained on phonetics and to make QSOs on air. SWL Aditya Sawant (now VU2BOT), SWL Prahlad Bodke the members of Technologists Association Panvel helped at the station.

This year, for the Golden Jubilee year celebration the school sent an invitation letter to set up Ham Radio station. The liasoning for the permission for the Jota was handled by new Ham VU2WAG/Om Shankar Waghmale. Permission was received on FAX, thanks to Mr Irshad Ahmedji. JOTA station for the Golden Jubilee year was set up in the VK high school, Panvel in Raigad District of Maharashtra, on the callsign of VU2WAG. A Circular to this effect was issued to all nearby schools by District Commissioner of Scouts.

On the previous day the 40m square loop antenna was erected on the terrace of the school, which was at a height of about 45 feet from the ground. It was tested on voice mode with 59 report with no noise at all, from the EU stations.

On the 20th of October 07 , JOTA station was inaugurated with an address on the air by the District Commissioner of Scouts Mr. KD Mhatre, Principal of the school. Principal of Kanya School Mrs Anjali Bhagat, and many VIPs along with more than 150 scout and guides were present in the ground. After the address and Ham radio awareness the HF and VHF stations started operating. There was lot of excitement. Other scouts also poured in from Kalamboli, Banthia highschool, New Panvel and others from Panvel area. A total of 303 Scouts/Guides/Scouts teachers were on the air on 2m and HF.

All hams present were greeted with bouquets . Hams present during JOTA were : VU2NXM/Basappa Arabole, VU2WAG/Shankar Waghmale, VU2SGW/Sai, VU2BOT/Aditya Sawant, VU2YAG/Makarand Chitnis, VU2TOO/Rohit Purohit, VU2WSM/Satish Menon,VU2EOJ/Suresh Verma, SWL Bijoy Philipp, SWL Vivek Dashputre, Local Karnala TV channel has covered the full JOTA..

The School has treated as its their pride to Host the Jota station and all necessary logistics was provided by them. Next year Many stations in Mumbai and Raigad District are expected.

The Mumbai Amateur Radio society conducted the 50th year of JOTA, in many schools VU2ZRS, OM Zyros and and Rakesh established a station at the G.D.Somani School Cuffe Parade Mumbai, which was also celebrating 100 Years of Scouting. Around 63 students attended and contacts were made with 5 stations. Contacts with local stations were made on VHF and the scouts and guides exchanged information and sang songs and the national anthem. It was one of the girl's birthday and she was treated to a birthday song!! The Principal of the school Mr Sharma visited the station and was very happy with the set up and all the student taking interest in Ham Radio. A small lecture was presented on Ham radio and the students had many queries which were answered. Mr Sharma acknowledged Zyros and Rakesh for being there and invited them to be there next year too.

Girish Shukla VU2LNZ and Huzefa Merchant VU2HIT along with his harmonic Murtuza set a JOTA station at Fellowship School Near August Kranti Maidan . The first contact was with YL parviz VU2PJM who encouraged the Scouts and Girl Guides to talk on air. The children were very thrilled and showed deep interest in international phonetics used on air. Contacts were also established with various school within Mumbai city on VHF and with Oman, Kochi and many stations on HF. Echo link was also used. Due to examinations, the celebrations were for only one day.

A Jota station was set up at Our Lady of Salvation High School, Dadar Mumbai by VU2DGB, VU3KNY and VU2IVO. Contacts were established with other Jota stations in Mumbai, Gwalior and Calicut and with DX Jota stations in Malaysia, Oman and Indonesia. Around 60 scouts and guides from Dadar and the neighbouring areas attended. They enjoyed the Jota experience by singing songs, exchanging riddles and jokes and also played antakshari.

JOTA station was established at Chembur Suman Nagar Scouts pavilion on 20th Oct 07. All the local Jota stations were contacted via the Mumbai Repeater. Contacts were made with JOTA Panvel VU2NXM Group and JOTA Calicut VU3SIO Group on HF.

On 21st Oct, 07 echolink contacts were made with Trivandrum JOTA stn VU3MMF Abdul & A41NB Salwa Oman. Both these stations were connected to Mira Road Jota through VHF simplex. Participants at Suman Nagar Chembur JOTA Stn were VU2JPN, VU2NFE, VU2LLM, VU3MWG & SWL'S. Around 350 scouts and guides attended.

50 th JAMBOORI ON AIR WITH HAM STATION VU2JAU GWALIOR

The 50th year of Jota was celebrated at the Govt.Girls Higher Secondary School Jayendra Ganj

Gwalior, where the station VU2JAU was set up. The initial program was chaired by om Jayu VU2JAU, om R.K.Khetan VU2IG, senior teacher and vice Principal Mrs.Arora, along with scouts & girl guides teacher and N.S.S. in charge Mrs.Shahida Anjum. The students were given detailed information about Amateur Radio and the importance of world wide Jamboori by the President of the Amateur Radio Club of Gwalior om Jayu S.Bhide VU2JAU. Secretary om R.K.Khetan VU2IG gave the details of HAM examination and its preparation. A question and answer session followed. OM Jayu presented a power point presentation on HAM Radio covering all the information and the help given by the Hams at the time of disasters. This impressed all the teachers and students and they have decided to start ham radio classes in the school. Mr.Arora praised the Ham radio. Scouts Teacher and mrs Shahida Anjum thanked the Amateur Radio Club Gwalior VU2GWL for providing this opportunity.

The first contact on radio was with VU3KNY and VU2LNZ, Jota Stations from Mumbai, followed by a contact with with VU2ATB, another Jota station from Calicut operated by om Sunil. Girl guides from both sides exchanged their views and sang a group prayer . VU2JAU also established a QSO with DV1SRE operated by Bojie, from Rizal,Philipines where so many scouts were assembled and were interested in talking to the scouts of other stations. It was an unique experience for the scouts and guides of both the countries.

On 21 October which was the last day of Jambori,VU2JAU established a contact with VU3DGB a Jota station from Mumbai operated by om Dilip, who had some scouts with him and exchanged their ideas with the scouts and girl guides present in Gwalior along with Dussera greetings. On the whole a very successful JOTA.

JAGADISH CHANDRA BOSE - Father of Wireless Communication.

By VU2DSI, Datta and VU2UR, Arasu

In 1895 Shri J C Bose gave his first public demonstration of wireless electromagnetic waves at Presidency College in Kolkatta.He sent wireless signals with the help of REMOTE CONTROL instruments developed and constructed by himself . He also transmitted wireless signals to a one mile distance.

IN 1897 Jan Bose demonstrated wireless signals to scientists at the Royal Society of Science in London. At this demo Marconi was present.He used the wavelength of 12.5MM and 5MM. The first wireless signaling experiment by Marconi on Salisbury Plain in England was done in May 1897. Popov in Russia was still working on basics of remote signaling in 1897. Bose developed "iron- mercury-iron coherer" with sensitive telephone detector in 1898 for his detailed experiment in wireless communication. The report about this was published in the proceedings of the Royal Society dated 27 April 1899.Marcony used this details of mercury coherer in his transatlantic communication from Newfoundland on 12 Dec 1901. Marconi also used the sensitive semiconductor device invented by Bose.

J C Bose described at the Royal Institute in London, his research work on millmeter wavelengths. He used waveguides,horn antennas,dielectric lenses,polarisers and semicoductors,of which some equipments are still exhibited at the Bose Institute at Kolkatta.Some of his ideas and concepts from 1897 are incorporated in 1.3mm multibeam receiveron NARO12meter telescope at TUSCAN,Arizona, in the USA. Sir Neville Mott,Noble Laureate in 1977remarked-"Bose was at least 60 years ahead of his time & anticipated use of P-type and N-type semiconductors.

Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose: Special event operations from 25th November to 02 December 2007. It has always been OM Datta VU2DSI, who is behind the organization of the special event operations in the past couple of years with the special call sign AT0JCB. Dattaji's motivation brought a group of operators this year, 2007, volunteering to work with special call prefixes. Acharya's birth day falls on 30th November, and the operations were planned centering around that date. Idea of using a common suffix "JCB" was necessary to identify the special event stations working for the birth anniversary. Thus, we had to plan some twenty special prefixes for the event. Naturally the selection was from AT1 to AT0 and AU1 to AU0. Each of the volunteers, was told to approach WP&C Wing, directly, for a particular nominated special prefix and common suffix "JCB", in the month of July 2007 itself. All said and done, when we finally received the clearance letter from New Delhi, there were only seven calls and the eighth one was cleared after 25th Nov. Unfortunately, the only call sign that was allotted, viz, AU8JCB, but could not be activated, was of VU2SDF OM San, who could not come to India, from Oman. Thus, the following seven stations were active with as many modes in as many bands as possible, for the special event:

AU4JCB (VU2HFR) OM Horey , Kolkata,
AT0JCB (VU2DCT) OM Pandit, Lucknow,
AU2JCB (VU2DSI) OM Datta., Ahmednagar,
AU7JCB (VU2SMN) OM Suhas, Kolhapur,
AU5JCB (VU2ROE) OM Rony, Panaji
AU9JCB (VU2SMS) OM Manju, Panaji and
AU1JCB (VU2UR) OM Arasu, Bangalore.

The propagation conditions, as all know, were very erratic on the different bands, and the operators had to toil a number of hours to get useful QSOs. The two special event stations from Panaji, were active in PSK31 mode and with two new homebrew 4 element yagi antennas for 20 and 15mb. All the others used their existing set-up only. Thus the bands had the dwarf and the giant, putting the calls for QSOs. A special mention here is that of new web page designed for the first time by OM Rony VU2ROE, much before the event, with the Id " http://au9jcb.angelfire.com". This site had many hits before the start of the event itself. Why not visit that site and offer your comments and give additional links to important sites?

In all, a couple of thousands of QSOs covering over a hundred countries resulted with this group's hard work. For all the DX operators, the QSL can be obtained by sending SAE and 2 valid IRCs; (and for VU operators SASE) from QSL Manager OM Suhas VU2SMN. A special award is also planned by OM Datta VU2DSI, for all those, who have worked all the seven special event stations.

A large scale operation is being planned for the next year the sesquicentennial year (150th year) of Acharya's birthday.

We thank the Officials/Engineers of WP&C wing for the very understanding of the special event, and allotting special prefixes for this team.

Best 73, see you next year, with more operators.

Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Sesquicentennial Special Award 2008.

Arasu VU2UR.

1. Period of activity: 01 January 2008 to 31 December 2008. UTC timings.
2. Whom to work : All interested in the award must work Indian amateur radio stations with prefixes like VU2, VU3 etc., from the Mainland or the islands like Andaman, Nicobar, Lakshadweep, and Coastal Groups.. QSO with calls like VU/DL7AB is not acceptable. Contacts with the Special event stations with AT,AU, etc prefixes with common suffix "JCB", should be your aim to achieve the award.
3. Modes: All modes CW, AM, FM, SSB, RTTY, PSK-31 etc may be used.
4. Single or Mixed mode entries are accepted and duly endorsed.
5. Bands: all bands from 1'8 to 29.7 MHz including WARC bands, accepted.
6. Conditions:

6.1 For VU and 4S7 amateurs: From the VU QSOs, you have to form the name "JAGADISH CHANDRA BOSE", by taking the first alphabet from the suffixes of the stations worked.

6.2 Example: If you have worked, say, VU2ACS, VU3ITI, VU3JHM, VU2EN, VU2QNY, AT0U, etc, then, only the underlined way of picking the alphabets is correct. The last two calls worked, do not give any useful alphabet.

6.3 In all, you need a minimum of 19 QSOs with VUs with a break up of first alphabets of suffix, like A-4, B-1, C-1, D-2, E-1, G-1, H-2, I-1, J-1, N-1, O-1, R-1 and S-2

7. For DX amateurs: You have to form the name "J C BOSE" from the last alphabets of the suffixes.

7.1 Example: If you have worked stations like VU2ACS, VU2ELJ, VU2OO etc.,, the underlined alphabets are useful.

7.2 You need a minimum of 6 QSOs with a break up listing of the last alphabets in the suffixs like B-1, C-1,E-1, J-1, O-1, S-1.

All (VU, 4S7 and DX) MUST have at least one QSO with a Special event station with "JCB" suffix, from among the many Special event stations with "JCB" in their suffix planned, in November 2008.

8.1 This QSO can be used as a JOKER for any missing alphabet in 19 or 6 required as per clauses 6.3 and 7.2

For all (VU, 4S7 and DX), if they have worked five special event stations, during the year 2008 with suffix "JCB". then the condition of forming the name is not required.

General Certification Rules (GCR) apply. Two amateurs or a club official has to countersign your application for the Special award.

Fees are 5 new IRCs (expiring in Dec 2009 or 2012) for DX operators and INR 75 for the Indian amateurs

All the applications should be sent to the Awards Manager of ARSI, B.L.Manohar Arasu VU2UR, MIG-6, 80 Feet Road, Kengeri Upanagara, Bangalore 560060, INDIA.

Dead line is 31.January 2009

Good luck, 73

.....

The Ex-USSR and the present Russian Call signs:

Arasu VU2UR.

The erstwhile USSR had over 190 oblasts (equivalent to the Indian State). These were numbered in "three digits" format. Arctic, Antarctic and the other Republics were included in these. The call signs used were EK,EM-EO,ER-ES.EU-EZ,RA-RZ,UA-UZ,4J,4K,4L etc.,.The call sign allocation in erstwhile USSR or the present Russia, is very meticulous based on the Geographical location of the oblast.. By reading the first alphabet after the prefix, you can easily make out the oblast from where the signal is coming to you. There are in all ten call areas from "1" to "0" This accurate method, India, has not used in allocating call signs for its amateur population. The call signs used were typically like UB5AC/UA0B, meaning the Ukrainian Op is QRV in UA0B oblast., whereas UB5AC/UA0 meant that the op is QRV in the "0" call area, any oblast.. Likewise, UP2RA/UM8B meant that the Lithuanian op was working in Kirghiz Rep UM8 oblast. UP2RA/UM8 meant activity in any oblast of Kirghiz Rep.For a DX station also, under reciprocal arrangement, it would be DL6KVA/UA0 meaning the German op is in the "0" call area, any oblast.

After the USSR became Russia and CIS, the Russian call sign allocation is still maintained accurately. Now the call sign blocks RA-RZ,UA-UH, are being used. The oblasts are now designated by "two alphabetical" notation like, MA, MO, KI, YN,SV,CB etc.,. There are in all 89 oblasts in the new system of designation since 12.06.1991.Every Oblast, which is like an India State, has several Districts, like in India. Each District is directly linked to the oblast by a two numeral number. YN-01, SV-32, MO-69 etc.,. From among the 89 oblasts there are over 2700 districts now. You can get all the alphabetical notations for the oblasts and the number of districts in each oblast, by visiting their web page. They have oblast wise maps too, to guide you. The Tambov Amateur Group, in UA3R area, has created an award called "RDA-Russian Districts Award". The basic requirement is that you must possess QSL cards from over 100 different districts of the different oblasts. The award steps are RDA-100, 250, 500, 1000, 1500, 2000, 2500 and Honour Roll. So far, from India, VU3DJQ was the first one to get RDA 100 for SSB, followed by VU2UR the awards RDA-100, 250, and 500 for CW. There are a few Russians who have 2700+ achieved, but, no one with all Districts so far. All the details about the RDA may be seen by visiting the web page "www.rdaward.org". They have a reflector too. To popularise the award, many Russian operators go "/p" or "/m" . To help you understand the call sign pattern that is followed, the following examples are given:

UA3AA/p or UA3AA/mshows that he is working within his oblast, away from his QTH, in any district

UA3AA/3/p or UA3AA/3/mthe op is working in the 3rd call area, any oblast, any district.

UA3AA/6/p or UA3AA/6/mthe op is working from 6th call area, any oblast, any district,

R3/DL7FT the German op is QRV from call area "3", any oblast, any district.

DL7FT/UA3Q- the German op is QRV from UA3Q oblast only, any district within.

R1AN is for Antarctic Operations, R2FJL is for the Franz Joseph land activity.

Working all the 50 states of USA may not be that easy now, as even a W2 operating from W6 area, does not show a call sign like W2ABC/6, as was before. Getting a North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho, may be quite difficult, unless you take part in the ARRL contest, when they exchange their two alpha codes for the State, with the DX operator giving his transmitter power. Hi. Coming to Russia, do not think it is easy to work all the 89 oblasts. That may be much tougher than the WAS or DXCC for you. Please do not skip a Russian call, work him and ask for the oblast and district detail. You will come to know how difficult it is, to get even 500 Districts. Hi. Hi.

All the very best and good luck in hunting Russian Districts.

(International News Continued ....)

Its electricity network. Fibre expansion across its regional NSW network is also on the cards. Hamilton said, "we're currently rolling fibre for our own use, and have also completed commercial installations in some areas. We'll continue to look for opportunities in both areas."

Still down-under, the Australian Communications and Media Authority has issued what might be the longest callsigns in the history of ham radio for a special event. ACMA, as its better known has made available to the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club the callsign VI 2 BMARC 50, to commemorate the club's 50th anniversary. VI 2 BMARC 50 will be on-air for 10 days early next year. Listen out for it from January 18th to the 28th 2008. Details of the operating schedule and QSL information will be posted on the club's website. Its in cyberspace at www.bmarc.org And that U-R-L is a lot easier to say than VI 2 BMARC 50.

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(Club News Continued ....)

fox hole was in a place called Pathimalai Balamurugan Temple hills nearKumitipathy. The 1st Fox Howl was at 9.30 A.M. in 144.100 MHz for 1 min. Total No.of Entries: 21 (From Quilon Thiruchengode, Erode, Pollachi, Udumalpet & Coimbatore). The Winners: I Place : VU2 DVP, VU2 RTF,VU2 KSJ, VU2 HF Time 10.59 A.M.; 1 Min. before the first clue. II Place: VU3 KEN, VU3 VKG,VU2 WDP. Time 11.38 A.M. III Place: VU3 NKK, VU2 POP,VU2 LDH, VU3 LKK. Time 11.50A.M.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is proposed to launch the 2nd Amateur Radio Satellite Delfi-C3 from India, during the launch window between 7th to 10th January 2008 on PSLV-C9. Delfi-C3 - is the first nanosatellite student project from the Delft University of Technology, Netherlands and will give a big boost to spirit of Amateur Radio satellite communications in India.

To commemorate the Military World Games held in India in October 2007, a special call sign AT0MWG was operated by hams from Hyderabad and Mumbai, the venue of the games. The operators were VU2SWS-Sarla, VU2NXM-Basappa, VU2SGW-Saailin, VU2JPN-Jaiprakash, VU2IZO-Milind, VU2HIT-Huzefa, VU2LNZ-Girish, VU2ZRS-Zyros,VU2NKS-Nandu, VU3RSB-Sarath, VU3ELR-Sasi, VU3SPQ-Shridhar. A special QSL card is printed for the call.

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Wish you
a very happy new year
2008

RAGCHEWING

VU2SGW, OM Sai

Hello friends I got my ticket on 1st. August,2006. What a memorable day it was for me!! My feelings were something I can't express!!! I am sure every new ham must be having the same feeling. At last you have your license and you are ready to get on the air!!.

The most important thing to do before handling the mike is to listen and observe how other hams are making their contacts. It requires patience and diligence. Imagine being an explorer without leaving the comfort of your own QTH, your voice reaching out to many lands and the voices of many in other lands answering in return. Every time I make a new contact, it is a new journey of personal growth. Making endless friends all over the world who will be happy to tell u more.

When India achieved its independence ,under the Prime Ministership of Pandit Jawarlal Nehru, there was a professor named Dastoor who gave a suggestion to the PM to connect each and every river of India and make it like a garland so our water problem will be solved and there will be no famine or flood in any part of India and water will not be wasted. Besides by this plan, India will have waterways all over, which will be cheaper and we can transport heavy bulk goods to any part of India. Unfortunately this idea did not take shape.

Present day India has probably one of the largest number of mobile phone users in the world . There are numerous mobile phone towers all over India. If the govt. can force the mobile companies to have repeaters on at least one out of every fifty towers then, we will have a network of repeaters all over India, which will serve mankind, specially during calamities and disasters. After all Ham radio works when all other means of communications fail!!

This is my personal viewpoint and I am sure many would agree.I am qrv most evenings on HF SSB. Give me shout whenever you hear me. I would love to have a QSO with you!!73 and happy hamming!De VU2SGW

Sailin Gudhka, Radio handle: Sai Working conditions: ICOM IC718 for HF MFJ 901B ATU ICOM 2200H For VHF YAESU FT60R VHF/UHF HANDY YAESU VX3R VHF/UHF HANDY Antenna: 40M INVERTED VEE 20M ROTATABLE DIPOLE 5/8 LAMADA

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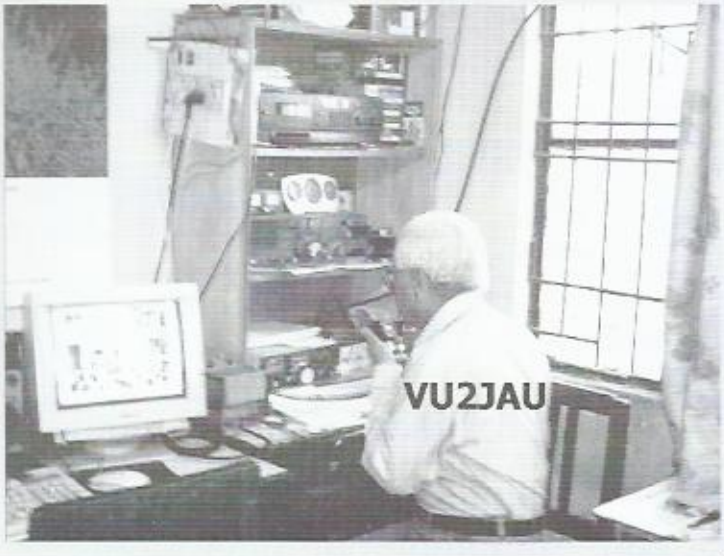
JOTA IN PANVEL

JOTA IN GWALIOR



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