

the milliwatt



The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

April, 2014

FCC Invites Public Comment on Petition Affecting 10-10.5 GHz Band

The FCC has invited public comment on a *Petition for Rule Making* (RM-11715) that would make a significant portion of the 10.0 to 10.5 GHz band available for wireless broadband services. The *Petition* by Mimosa Networks Inc proposes a band plan for 10.0 to 10.5 GHz that, it says, would protect frequencies most often used by radio amateurs. The petition hinges on FCC adoption of rule changes that would put the 10 GHz band under Subpart Z of the Commission's Part 90 rules. Subpart Z currently sets out regulations governing wireless licensing, technical standards, and operational standards in the 3650 to 3700 MHz band.

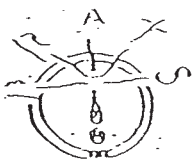
"[T]he application of the coordination procedures and requirements provided in Subpart Z will ensure that Amateur Radio operations in the band will not be disrupted," Mimosa told the FCC. "In addition, as a further safeguard, Mimosa proposes a band plan for the 10.0-10.5 GHz band that would protect frequencies in the band that are most often used by Amateur Radio operators." The proposed band plan would specify 10.350 to 10.370 GHz as an "Amateur Calling Band," and 10.450 to 10.500 GHz for Amateur-Satellite operations in Sumner said that while the ARRL has not yet adopted a position with respect to the petition, "some aspects of the petition require careful study." Interested parties may comment on RM-11715 using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

THEME FOR 2014 AMATEUR RADIO DAY ANNOUNCED

The International Amateur Radio Union Administrative Council has designated "Amateur Radio: Your Gateway to Wireless Communication" as the theme for World Amateur Radio Day 2014. This ham radio holiday is celebrated each year on April 18 to recognize the anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union in Paris, France back in 1925. The primary purpose of World Amateur Radio Day is to focus a public spotlight on Amateur Radio and its benefits to countries and communities. This year the International Amateur Radio Union and its member-societies around the world will celebrate the organization's 89th anniversary. (ARRL, IARU, Southgate, others, via ARNewsline)

Special Event Stations to Mark International Marconi Day

A few dozen special event stations will take to the air April 26, 0000 UTC to 2359 UTC, to commemorate International Marconi Day (IMD). Among them will be GB4IMD, in Cornwall, England, OE14M, in Vienna, Austria, IY0IMD in Italy, VO1AA, on Signal Hill in St Johns, Newfoundland, VK2IMD in Australia, and WA1WCC on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. All stations planning to participate are urged to register. A list of registered participants is on the IMD 2014 website.



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The award-winning monthly
publication of The BRATS.
Items herein may be reprinted
with appropriate credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

Some Thoughts

Spring is REALLY here! After all the snow, who knows? We know hamfest season is upon us.

Mark your calendar for July 20, Sunday, at the Howard County Fairgrounds and plan to help us at the Famous BRATS Maryland Hamfest!!!

Happy Passover and Happy Easter to all!

73, Mayer, W3GXX

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The Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3)
of the internal revenue Code and a non-profit
corporation in the state of Maryland.

Member of and support: The ARRL and The
Foundation for Amateur Radio.

Home Page: <http://www.bratsatv.org>

email: brats@bratsatv.org

Meeting; 2nd Monday at 7:15 PM at the
Pikesville Library; 1301 Reisterstown Road

President: Kevin Sherwood, KB3PLX

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Secretary: Ted Bauer, WA3AER

Treasurer: Jim Sherwood, KB3SKN

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Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX

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BRATS REPEATERS

Linked Repeaters WB3DZO

147.03+, 224.96-, 448.325-

Stand-Alone repeaters:

443.350+, 224.8-

Packet Nodes:

W3GXT-5: 145.05

W3GXT-10: 224.52

ATV Repeater W3WCQ

Inputs: 426.25, 1253.25

Outputs: 439.25, 911.25

BRATS Weekly Nets

Monday, 9 PM – Traffic and Info

Tues. 11:45 AM- Informal ATV

Wednes. 9 PM – CATS ATV Net

Thurs. 9 PM – BRATS ATV Net

Sat., 1 PM – Weekly News Bulletin

Sun. 8 PM BRATS ATV Net

As Needed: Skywarn

BRATS Board of Directors:

Through December, 2014:

K9FXV, K3ZMN

Through December, 2015:

K2GZL, N3GXH

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Second Monday of each month, 7:15

Pikesville Library 1301 Reisterstown Rd

NEXT BRATS MEETING

Monday, May 12, 7 PM

Pikesville, Library

1301 Reisterstown Rd.

Radio Amateur Facing Substantial Fine for CB Violation

An Oklahoma Amateur Extra class licensee is facing a \$12,000 fine for operating his Citizens Band radiotelephone "interfere with the communications of other CB stations," the FCC said in a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* released March 21. In May 2013 an FCC agent used mobile direction-finding techniques to positively identify the source of a continuous carrier of CB channel 19 (27.1850 MHz) to the residence of Orloff Haines, KF5IXX, in Enid, Oklahoma. Haines was not at home, but his wife showed the agent her husband's CB station, which was transmitting on channel 19. "Mrs Haines stated that Mr Haines was 'keyed on,' or continuously transmitting on channel 19, because other CB operators in the area were harassing her," the FCC reported in the *NAL*. The agent telephoned Orloff Haines during the station inspection, and, the FCC said, he admitted that he was transmitting a continuous carrier on channel 19. Mrs Haines "voluntarily turned off" the CB transmitter at the end of the inspection. The FCC said the carrier was interfering with CB communication within an approximately 2 mile radius. Prior to last May, Haines had received two written warnings from the Dallas FCC office, advising him of the consequences of intentionally interfering with other CB communications. "The fact that Mr Haines interfered with other CB communications despite being twice warned in writing that such actions violated [the Communications Act] and FCC rules demonstrates a deliberate disregard for the Commission's requirements and authority," the FCC said, in justifying an upward adjustment of \$5000 in the proposed forfeiture. The FCC gave Haines 30 days to pay the fine or file in writing for reduction or cancellation of the proposed fine.

FCC Consent Decree Requires Radio Amateur to Relinquish His License

As part of a *Consent Decree* released March 19, a Cocoa, Florida, radio amateur has agreed to give up his Advanced class Amateur Radio license. Terry L. Van Volkenburg, KC5RF, also has agreed to make a \$1000 "voluntary donation" to the US Treasury, in installments, and waive all rights to contest the validity of the *Consent Decree*. In turn, the FCC is terminating a 2012 enforcement proceeding involving unlicensed transmissions that interfered with a sheriff's department radio system. On March 1, 2013, the FCC found Van Volkenburg liable for a \$25,000 forfeiture, which the Commission subsequently determined he would be unable to pay. The Enforcement Bureau also agreed not to institute a new proceeding on the basis of the one just concluded. Prior to signing the *Consent Decree*, the FCC said, Van Volkenburg requested in writing that the Commission cancel his Amateur Radio license. The FCC investigation began in September 2012 in response to an interference complaint filed by the Brevard County Sheriff's Department. The Enforcement Bureau subsequently determined that Van Volkenburg transmitted on 465.300 MHz without a license, interfering with the radio system in the county jail. In settling the enforcement action, Van Volkenburg "admits, solely for the purpose of this *Consent Decree* and for Commission civil enforcement purposes" that the radio transmissions he made on 465.300 MHz sparking the investigation violated the Communications Act. (ARRL)

NEW BRUNSWICK CANADA CONFIRMS DISTRACTED DRIVING EXEMPTION FOR HAM RADIO OPERATORS.

Some good news for hams living in New Brunswick, Canada. Radio Amateurs of Canada has announced that New Brunswick has passed new legislation to provide an exemption to that province's distracted driving law for ham radio mobile operations. The announcement was made at the Legislature in Fredericton on Tuesday March 19th. A number of Canadian radio amateurs were in attendance at the invitation of Minister of Justice's Troy Lifford. At the same session, Radio Amateur of Canada member Alan Thurber, VE1AKT, was formally recognized in the Legislature for his extensive involvement in amateur radio, in various other groups and the community in general. (RAC, via AR Newsline)

Qatar's Geostationary Es'hailSat 2 Satellite to Carry Amateur Radio Transponder

Qatar's Es'hailSat 2 satellite will provide the first Amateur Radio geostationary communication capability linking Brazil and India. The satellite, expected to launch by the end of 2016, will carry two "Phase 4" Amateur Radio transponders and will be positioned at 26° E. It will also carry Ku and Ka band capabilities for television, government, and commercial content distribution. AMSAT-DL is providing technical support to the project. AMSAT-DL President Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, said the satellite's footprint will cover Europe, Africa, and parts of Brazil and Asia but not North America. "Basically the same position as Es'HailSat-1," Guelzow said. "Perhaps we will find another one willing to sponsor a position more in the West." AMSAT-DL plans to publish additional details on the satellite's technical characteristics in the next month. The Qatar Amateur Radio Society and Qatar Satellite Company are cooperating on the ham radio project. (ARRL)

ANNUAL EASTERN VHF/UHF/MICROWAVE CONFERENCE

This year's Eastern VHF - UHF and Microwave Conference is slated for April 11th to the 13th at the Baymont Suites in Manchester, Connecticut. Among those scheduled to present talks are Fred Stefanik, N1DPM, on a Fresh Approach to a Multiband Microwave Station; Roger Rehr, W3SZ, speaking about Aircraft Scatter; Phil Theis, K3TUF, on Advances in Smart Software Defined Radio Operations and many others. Full information is on the web at www.newsvhf.com/vhfconf.html (VHF Reflector, via AR Newsline)

ARRL - TAPR DCC IN AUSTIN TEXAS IN SEPTEMBER

The 33rd annual ARRL and Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Digital Communications Conference will take place September 5th to the 7th in Austin, Texas. This year's conference will feature two days of technical forums on Friday and Saturday along with a concurrent Introductory Forum on Saturday. Those who submit Technical Papers for inclusion in the Conference Proceedings will receive preference for a forum, however anyone can propose to present a session without submitting a technical paper. Updated information will be made available on the web at www.tapr.org/dcc (ARRL- TAPR DCC, via AR Newsline)

OSCAR-11 / UOSAT-2 CELEBRATES 30 YEARS ON-ORBIT

UOSAT-OSCAR-11 has now been in orbit for 30 years and remarkably its signal on 145.826 MHz FM is still being received. UOSAT-2, was designed and built by a team of engineers at the University of Surrey in Guildford, Surrey, UK as the successor to UOSAT-1. It was placed into orbit on board a Delta rocket from the United States Western Test Range at Vandenberg Air Base, in California on March 1, 1984. OSCAR-11 was the most rapidly designed ham radio satellite going from inception to launch in only five months. It was also the first amateur satellite to carry a digital communications package into Earth orbit, and the first to be controlled by a Central Processing Unit running software written in the high-level programming language "Forth". The bird originally carried three beacons but only the 2 meter unit is currently operational. (AMSAT-UK, via AR Newsline)

HAM HAPPENINGS: SE VHF SOCIETY CONFERENCE APRIL 25 - 26

Turning to happenings in the world of amateur radio, the 2014 Southeastern VHF Society Conference will be held on April 25th and 26th at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast in the Atlanta suburb of Norcross, Georgia. The conference will kick off with a luncheon on Friday. During the conference there will be seminars, sessions as well as noise figure testing and antenna testing. A banquet with speaker on Saturday evening to close the festivities. For further information on speakers, agenda, etc. please check this link : svhfs.org/conference.html (W4KXY)

ARRL DX BULLETIN

TANZANIA, 5H. Maurizio, IK2GZU is QRV as 5H3MB until April 11 while visiting a hospital and orphanage here that are both part of the Mission Ilembula. Activity is on the HF bands in his spare time. QSL to home call.

TONGA, A3. Masa, JA0RQV is QRV as A35JP from Nuku'alofa on Tongatapu, IOTA OC-049, while on a work assignment. Activity is during his free time and weekends on 80 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, E7. Members of the Akademski Radio Klub in Banja Luka are QRV with special call sign E750EBL until the end of 2014 to celebrate their club's 50th anniversary on the air. QSL via E77E.

THAILAND, HS. David, HS0ZLU is QRV from Koh Phangan Island, IOTA AS-101, until May. Activity is on 20 and 10 meters using SSB and PSK. QSL to home call.

LITHUANIA, LY. Sam, LY5W is QRV as LY10NATO until the end of 2014 to mark Lithuania's joining of NATO 10 years ago. QSL to home call.

AR Newsline DX

F5MNW will be operating stroke FR from **Reunion Island** through April 8th. Activity will be on the High Frequency bands using CW only. QSL via his home callsign either direct or via the bureau.

PD7YY and PE1GNP will be active as PH38EU from **Terschelling Island** Between April 11th and the 14th. Activity will be on 40 through 10 plus 2 meters using SSB. QSL via PD7YY or PE1GNP, either direct or via the bureau.

JG7PSJ will be active as JD1BMH from **Chichijima Island** between April 27th and May 11th.

Operations will be on 40 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via the bureau to JD1BMH or direct to JG7PSJ

UA3AA is on the air from **Nepal** using the call 9N7AA until May 23rd. Activity has been on 160 through 10 meters using CW only. Unfortunately his current location suffers from some serious RFI issues that affect his ability to hear the calling stations. QSL direct only.

(Above from OPDX and other DX news sources)

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

April 3	SARL 80m QSO Party
April 5-6	Mississippi QSO Party SP DX Contest
Apr 12-13	JIDX CW Contest OK/OM DX Contest, SSB New Mexico QSO Party Georgia QSO Party
Apr 18-19	Holyland DX Contest
Apr 19-20	Michigan QSO Party Ontario QSO Party YU DX Contest
Apr 26-27	Helvetia Contest Florida QSO Party

CANADIAN HAMS ATTEMPT TO CROSS THE POND ON TWO METERS

A group of hams from Atlantic Canada will operate from Pouch Cove, Newfoundland, from July 4th to the 12th. This, in a bid to complete a 2 meter trans-Atlantic QSO and claim the Brendan Trophy.

The expedition will operate take to the air from Maidenhead Grid GN37 transmitting on 144.270 MHz with about 750 watts into a 30 meter long rope Yagi with a gain of more than 23 dB over a dipole. The group will concentrate its efforts using the digital mode JT65B that offers greatly enhanced performance over more conventional analog operation. It will also have the capability to operate CW and SSB if conditions warrant. Further is on the web at www.brendanquest.org or by e-mail to [info \(at\) brendanquest \(dot\) org](mailto:info@brendanquest.org) (Press release) (ARRL)

DXCC News

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports that the following operation is approved for DXCC credit: FT5ZM – Amsterdam & St. Paul Island; 2014 Operation

Hamfests

Saturday, April 5 – Timonium MD
The Greater Baltimore Hamboree
MD State Fair Grounds , Timonium
ONE DAY ONLY!! Free VE Exams aa
at 9 AM; BARC. 443-590-1444

Sunday, June 8: Manassas, VA
Ole Virginia Hams ARC Hamfest
Prince William Co Fairgrounds, Manassas
info: manassashamfest.org

BRATS HAMFEST
SUNDAY, July 20
Howard Co. Fairgrounds

HAMVENTION ON-LINE
ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE
The online ordering system is now
accepting Hamvention 2014 orders.
According to an announcement the
Hamvention's Webmaster Richard
Rieben, KE4WLE, you can now order
your tickets or reserve a flea
market spot. Its all on-line at
hamvention.org. (KE4WLE)

FCC GRANTS EXPERIMENTAL LICENSES IN 70 CM BAND

The FCC has issued its list of recently granted experimental licenses and there were a few that will likely be of interest to ham radio operators. Primarily those using the shared 420 to 450 MHz band. Amateur radio operators in the area north of Denver, Colorado may eventually notice transmissions from Detect, Inc. on 449 MHz. This will be in connection with the testing of wind profiler radar and remote sensing technology operating mobile around the Longmont area.

And General Dynamics is using the same band for development of software-defined radios operating with Wide Networking Waveform mobile technology in Scottsdale, Arizona. The specific frequencies that General Dynamics will be using are 420 to 424 dot 75, 445 dot 75 to 450, 1370 to 1400 and 1755 to 1850 MHz. The complete list of experimental license grants from January 1st through February 1st of this year has been made available in the FCC Public Notice Report No. 453 which is subtitled Experimental Actions. (TV Technology via ARNewline)

VE EXAMS

LARC. 364 Main S.t Laurel, 3rd Sat., 9 AM
John, WB3GXW, 301-572-5124

Historical Electroncis Mueum, Linthicum
4th Tuesday at 6 PM, Harold, WB4OGP
410-757-0493(h); 410-712-6829 (w)

Aero ARC: White Marsh Library 1 PM,
walk-ins welcome
Nov. 23. ARRL VEC testing fee.
Pat. AC3F, 410-687-7209; ac3f@juno.c

BARC VE EXAMS

12360 Owings Mills Blvd,
Register at 1:30; exams at 2.

No session in April
May 3, June 7, July 13,
August 2, Sept. 6, Oct. 5,
Nov 8, Dec 6...
January, July and October
are Sunday sessions.
(Thanks, N3YI)

Milliwatt Swap Shop

Ads are free and get results!

Mail your ad to: BRATS, Box 5915

Baltimore, MD 21282-5915 or

email to w3qyk@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Hustler G7-144\$125. You pick up- HRO discount price \$199. Took down to put up dual band antenna. N3BHE 410-299-5931.

FOR SALE: ICOM T2H 2 mtr. HT w/ charger belt clip, rubber ducky, manual, asking \$80 K3BCD: 410-866-5441; or wmm@comcast.net

SPECIAL OFFER! ICOM BC-110 battery charger. 12vDC, 200 ma, for ICOM T8A or equivalent, almost new, cost \$46, make me a reasonable offer. Also, WANTED: Battery for ICOM T8A. Mayer, W3GXX, w3qyk@verizon.net

FOR SALE: ICOM 745, 200 watt HF scvr, PIEXX IC-EX 243 physical electric keyer, PROM memory board, standard mike, 13v. power cord. No power supply. Will consider trade, currency or both. KB3RLD@arrl.net

Voice of Russia to Go Dark After All

No fooling: The Voice of Russia — the former "Radio Moscow" — will end its shortwave broadcasts on Tuesday, April 1. After contradictory announcements and reports last December, it appears the international broadcaster is indeed pulling the plug on its HF transmissions. SWL Tom Witherspoon, K4SWL, contacted VOR. As he reports on his blog, Voice of Russia's Elena Osipova told him, "This is to thank you for your message and confirm the information about the upcoming cancellation of the Voice of Russia's short- and medium wave transmissions as of April 1, 2014." Effective December 9, as a result of a decree signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Voice of Russia radio company officially ceased to exist and merged with several other state-run news agencies as part of *Rossia Segodnya*, a Russia-based international news service. From the 1950s through the 1980s, the station, as Radio Moscow, was a virtual beacon for short-wave listeners (SWLs), many of whom gravitated into Amateur Radio. "I remember when the *Voice of Russia and Radio Moscow* absolutely dominated the shortwaves, especially in my early years as a radio listener," Witherspoon remarked on his blog. "Times have changed for this broadcaster, who has been the mouthpiece for Russia and the Soviet Union." In 2003 VOR was among the first major international radio broadcasters to launch daily broadcasts to Europe in Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM). (ARRL)

WANTED: Original DJ580T in working order. order with battery pack, charger, contact N3YI@yahoo.com

JADE COMPUTERS

1009 Ingleside Ave, Baltimore 21228

443-667-4187. joe@jadecomputers.us

web page design, hosting, order PC on-line,

<http://www.jadecomputers.us>.

VTS Video Taping Service

Video, DVD duplications, video tape

transferred to DVD, standards, conversions,

1-877-891-1002. BRATS member Bob Shapiro

K2MYS. <http://www.videotapingqservice.com>

Antique radio repair, Restoration

Eric, WA3TAD, audio visual service, retro

radio. 3401 Chestnut Ave. Baltimore 21211

410-467-3520. Wa3tad@comcast.net

WANTED: AT 930 for TS 930S. Jerry

jerryrmd@sbcglobal.net

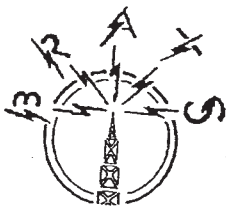
WANTED: AC Gilbert erector sets: old, new

large, small, need not be complete. CASH.

PAID. Lewis, 410-296-4874]

WANTED: Manual for MFJ 1452. Greg

WB2LOO. gjm313@verizon.net



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April, 2014

NEXT BRATS MEETING

Monday, May 12, 7 PM
Pikesville, Library

NASA PUBLISHES UNPRECEDENTED MILKY WAY IMAGES

NASA has released an interactive mosaic of infrared images of the Milky Way. According to the space agency what's known as the Galactic Legacy Mid-Plane Survey Extraordinaire project or GLIMPSE360 for short allows viewers to see stars normally obstructed by interstellar dust. The variable zoom image is a composite of more than 2 million photos taken by the Spitzer Space Telescope over the course of a decade and sent back to earth via its radio system. NASA says that all of these images together still only make up three percent of our night sky, but because the Milky Way is shaped like a stellar pancake, that small percentage still shows more than half of the stars in its disc. You can view the composite image on-line at tinyurl.com/glimpse360 (NASA, other news reports, via ARNewsline)

DODCANESE ISLAND MAY 3 - 11

Nine operators will be active from Dodcanese with the special callsign SX5LA from May 3rd to the 11th. Operations will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. The group plans to use beam antennas for 30 through 6 meters, a phased vertical for 40, a vertical for 80 and an Inverted L for 160 meters. Power out will be only 100 watts. QSL's go via SV2FWV. (Facebook)

OTHER CLUB MEETINGS:

QCWA: Monday at Noon, Cactus Willie
7315 Ritchie Hwy, Glen Burnie
3rd Thursday, 1 PM, Old Country
Buffet, Joppa at Satyr Hill
Last Wednesday, 1 PM, Denny's
Bel Air Road at Putty Hill

AARC: 1st and 3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM
Davidson Family Rec. Center
Queen Anne Bridge Road

VMRAD: 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM
Dolley Madison Library
14 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean, VA

BARC: 1st and 3rd Wednesday,
7:30 PM, 12360 Owings Mills Blvd.,
Owings Mills, MD

CARA: 4th Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Gateway Center, Room 401
6751 Gateway Dr., Columbia, MD

BRATS MEMBERSHIP FORM: Regular, \$15; Retired/Disabled/Student: \$10; Family: \$20

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Street _____ City _____ State/Zip _____
e-mail _____
il to: BRATS, Box 5915, Baltimore, MD 21282-5915