

the milliwatt



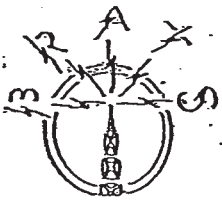
The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

January, 2016

North Korea on the air for First Time In More Than a Decade!

In an unexpected turn of events, Polish DXer Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX, who visited North Korea -- officially the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) -- this month in advance of a planned Amateur Radio operation early next year, showed up on the air from the most-wanted DXCC entity around 0000 on December 20. During a "demonstration" for North Korean officials, P5/3Z9DX made nearly 800 DXers -- most of them in Asia -- very happy over the couple of days he was on the air. Grzyb operated mostly on 15 meters with some excursions on 20 and 10 meters, SSB only. The P5/3Z9DX preview was the first from North Korea since the 2001-2002 operation by Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN.

The surprise appearance of P5/3Z9DZ on the air coincided with some of the worst HF conditions in days, if not weeks, no thanks to a geomagnetic storm. Grzyb's visit to Pyongyang this month had been scheduled to iron out the details of his 2016 operation. The radio equipment he took to North Korea remained behind in government hands, as agreed beforehand. A P5/3Z9DX operation from North Korea now is poised to take place in February.



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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

BRATS REPEATERS
Linked, WB3DZO
147.03+, 224.96-, 448.325-
Stand alone:
443.350+, 224.8-
Packet Nodes:
W3GXT=5 145.05
W3GXT-10 224.52
ATV repeaters W3WCQ
inputs: 426.25, 1253.25
Outputs: 439.25, 911.25

BRATS WEEKLY NETS
Monday 9 PM Traffic and Info
Tues. 11:45 Informal ATV
Wednes. 9 PM CATS ATV
Thurs 9 PM BRATS ATV
Sat. 1 PM Weekly News Bulletin
Sun 8 PM BRATS ATV net
AS Needed: Skywarn

**The BRATS
Officers,
Board of
Directors
And Membership
Wish all of you
A Happy, Healthy
New Year!!!!**

THANKS!
**Thanks to Russ, N3YI
and Scott, KB3Jqq, for
items submitted for
this issue... We really
appreciate it. – W3GXX**

BRATS Board of Directors
Through December, 2016:
W3MSR, K9FXY
Through December, 2017:
K2GZL, N3GXH

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The Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282
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: ARRL, Foundation for Amateur Radio
Home Page: <http://www.bratsatv.org>
Email: brats@bratsatv.org
Meetings: 2nd Monday, 7 PM at the
Greene Turtle, Owings Mills, MD or
The Pikesville Library; 1301 Reisterstown Rd.
President: Oryx Gazaella, KORYX
Vice Pres.: Kevin Sherwood, KB3PLX
Secretary: Ted Bauer, WA3AER
Treasurer: Jim Sherwood, KB3SKN
Chairman of the Board:
Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX
=====

BRATS MEETINGS
Second Monday of each month
7:00 PM, site to be determined

**Listen to the weekly News
Bulletin on 147.03/R
Saturday at 1 PM
Join us for the weekly
Traffic and info Net on
Mondays at 9PM on 147.03/R**

BRATS

Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society MINUTES of the 7 December 2015 Monthly Meeting

KevinS, KB3PLX, chaired the annual Holiday meeting at Greene Turtle, Owings Mills.

/REPORTS

- Minutes: Minutes from the November meeting submitted
- Repeater/Equipment:
ATV – KenMcQ, K3UQQ, located the prior preamp, tested, and installed on site. Reportedly working OK. Need replacement 25A pwr supply; TedB, WA3AER, will check to see if he has a spare to donate.
2M Amp – waiting for TE Systems to build, ship the unit we ordered.
WIRES-X – unit received from Yaesu, awaiting installation.
DATV – plan investigation into investment needed to start up.
Site Visits – PLEASE inform club officers before any site visits for coordination and approval with site staff. This will keep us in the good graces of our site hosts.

/OLD BUSINESS

- KA3IDB (SK): We are sad to report that long time member, and frequent volunteer, Bill Self passed on Nov. 14, 2015.
- NPOTA: MarkR, W3MSR, sent application and fee to NPS/Ft. McHenry. We need to establish dates for operation during Spring 2016. K3B special event call will be requested.

/NEW BUSINESS

- 2016 Board Meeting: Meeting will be held at the January meeting. Location and date T.B.D. Please stay tuned.
- 2016 Officers: Nominations from November accepted; no new ones received. Slate elected without discussion.
- Meeting Venue: NeilG, W3ZQI, volunteered to approach Towson American Legion as our meeting site, and potential location for a station. This is in keeping with Fr. Skip's suggestion prior to his passing.
- Work Party List: We would like to create a list of those members willing to lend a hand for work parties. If interested, please send your name and email address to TedB, thbauer [at] gmail [dot] com.

Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas to all BRATS members and their families.

Ted, WA3AER,
Secretary

POW! TO THE MOON, ALICE!

Anyone who appreciates what older radio equipment can still do, will appreciate the importance of a commemorative moonbounce event taking place this month in New Jersey. Seventy years ago, a team from the U.S. Army, operating at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey's "Project Diana" site, successfully copied radio signals that had been bounced from the moon using an Army tracking dish.

That site is now part of the InfoAge Science History Museum where, on January 10, the EME, or "earth-moon-earth" bounce, will be recreated, marking the date when the historic transmission both left its mark and its signal, in 1946.

In fact, the radio amateurs intend to use that same dish, which has long since been demilitarized and refurbished. The TLM-18 received those first historic signals during its time of active service on that site as a ground station for the TIROS 1 and 2 weather satellites and for Project Vanguard.

The commemorative transmission will occur on 23 centimeters from the station of the Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club, N2MO, sent by members of that club as well as hams from Princeton University and the science museum. The dish's primary role, as used by Daniel Marlow, K2QM, is to help observe radio pulsars as well as radiation from the Milky Way.

Marlow teaches physics at Princeton University and serves on the board of InfoAge.

The TLM-18 is being made available for the amateurs' moonbounce on a secondary basis. Nevertheless, promising this group the moon - and then delivering - is going to be just as historic an event as it had been back in 1946. (ARRL, INFOAGE MUSEUM) (AR Newslines)

HONORS AT HAMVENTION

If you're planning to attend Dayton Hamvention in May this year, don't just be an attendee - be a part of the awards ceremony by nominating candidates now. Organizers are looking to present awards for Amateur of the Year, Special Achievement, Technical Excellence and Club of the Year. You have until Feb. 1 to submit the names of deserving candidates, and all licensed amateurs are eligible. Forms and details about how candidates can qualify are available on the Dayton Hamvention website. Find the website at the bottom of this story on our Amateur Radio Newslines website. Or send questions to awards@hamvention.org.

Website is <http://hamvention.org/event-details/awards/>
(HENRY RUMINSKI, Hamvention Media Chair) (arnewslines)

ARRL DX BULLETIN

ANTARCTICA, CE9. 8T2BH is QRV by VU3BPZ until mid-December 2016 at the Bharati Research Station. He plans to be on 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL via I1HYW.

SABLE ISLAND, CY0. CY0VA1AXC is QRV in his spare time until the end of January, 2016. Look for him on 20 meters using SSB during his evening hours, 2100-2300Z. (continued next page)

ARRL DX Bulletin

KENYA, 5Z. Rick, M0LEP is QRV as 5Z4/M0LE until January 10. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

SENEGAL, 6W. Francis, F6BLP will be QRV as 6W7SK from January 5 to 31. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters, with a focus on the lowbands, using CW with some SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

MOROCCO, CN. Jean, F5LYF is QRV as CN2JJ from Tiznit until March 2016. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

IRELAND, EI. Special event station EI1916E is QRV during all of 2016 to commemorate the 1916 Easter Rising of Dublin. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB, RTTY and PSK. This includes entries in

some of the upcoming RTTY contests. QSL direct to EI3GC.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL. Special event station HL16RI is QRV

until June 27, 2016 during the 107th Convention of Rotary International in Seoul that is held from May 28 to June 1.

QSL via bureau.

BULGARIA, LZ. Members of Bulgarian Radio Club Blagovestnik are QRV as LZ1012SGM during 2016 to honor the memory of Bulgarian Saints.

QSL via bureau.

UKRAINE, UR. Special event stations EM10UFF and EM10UCF

are QRV until June 30, 2016 to mark the 10 year anniversaries of the Ukrainian Flora and Fauna and Ukrainian Castles. QSL both calls via UR7UT.

BELIZE, V3. Bob, K7YB will be QRV as V31YB from Placencia and San Ignacio from January 3 to 12. Activity will be holiday

style on 40, 20, 17 and 10 meters using CW and SSB.

QSL direct to home call.

VANUATU, YJ. Daniel, VK4AFU plans to be QRV as YJ0AFU from Port Vila, IOTA OC-035, from January 2 to 10.

Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes.

QSL via NA5U.

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Jan 09-10	NA QSO party, CW
Jan 10	NRAY Baltic Contest
0630-0830Z	SSB; 0900-1100Z CW
	DARC 10-meter contest
Jan 15	LZ Open contest
Jan 16-17	Hungarian contest
	NA QSO Party, SSB
Jan 23-24	BARTG RTTY Sprint
	YLISB QS party CW/SSB
	UK/EI DX contest, CW
Jan 23	Montana QSO Party
Jan 29-31	CQ 160-meter Contest, CV
Jan 30-31	UBA DX Contest SSB

HAMFESTS

Saturday, January 30, Odenton, MD

MMARC Hamfest New Site

Odenton Baptist Church

8410 Piney Orchard Pkwy

Odenton 21113

THIS SITE THIS YEAR ONLY

Returns to fire hall in 2017

146.805-, tone 107.2

Mike, AK2JAI, ka2jai@arrlnet

Saturday, February 6 Richmond, VA

FROSTFEST 8:30 AM TO 3 PM

At the Richmond Raceway Complex

600 East Laburnum Avenue

<http://frostfest.com/wp/>

804-620-7287

Saturday, Feb. 27, Linthicum, MD

'7th Techo-Swap-Fest at the

National Electronics Museum'

1745 W. Nursery Rd, Linthicum

9 AM to 2 PM

techno.swap.fest@gmail.com

SILENT KEY

Roland Slatkoff, W3RUN

December 19, 2015

January, 2016

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BARC VE Exams
Our Savior Lutheran Church
141 Lavern Ave. Landsdowne
Register at 1:30: exams at 2:00

BARC Meetings
First Wednesday at 7 PM
Wegman's Hunt Valley
Upstairs Dining Room

2016 Testing Schedule

(The date and location are subject to change; please preregister.)

Day Date

Saturday January 9 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday February 6 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday March 5 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday April 2 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday May 7 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday June 4 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday July 9 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday August 6 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday September 10 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday October 1 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday November 5 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227
Saturday December 3 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227

Registration starts at 1:30 PM.

Exams begin at 2 PM.

No one admitted after the exams begin.

Preregister by email: info@veteam.org

Please preregister so we can contact you in the event that the exam location site changes.

Other Clubs Meetings

LARC VE EXAMS
364 Main St. Laurel,
3rd Sat. at 9 AM;
John, WB3GXW,
301-572-5124

CARA
4th Tuesday at 7:30 PM
Columbia Gateway Center
Room 401; Columbia, MD

MD Mobileers VE Exams at
National Electronics Museum,
Linthicum
4th Tuesday at 6 PM
Mike, KA2JAI, 443-310-4902
KA2JAI@arri.net

AARC
Thursday, April 2, 7:30 PM
Davidsonville Family Rec.
Center, 3789 Queen Anne
Bridge Rd. Davidsonville

CCARC
Monday, 1/11 7:30 PM
50 Kate Wagner rd.
Freed, K3TAZ on amateur TV

Milliwatt Swap Shop

Ads are free and get results!

Mail your ad to: BRATS, Box 5915

Baltimore, MD 21282-5915 or

email to w3gk@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Hustler G7-144 \$125.
HRO price \$199. N3BHE
410-299-5931

SPECIAL: ICOM BC110 battery
charger, 12vDC, 200 ma for ICOM
T8A or equivalent, cost \$46,
Make me a reasonable offer.
Mayer, w3gk@verizon.net

JADE COMPUTERS
1009 Ingleside Ave. Balto 21228.
443-667-4187,

joe@jadecomputers.us

web page design, hosting,
order PC ONLINE.

<http://www.jadecomputers.us>

Antique radio repair, restoration
Eric WA3TAD, audio visual service,
Retro radio, 3401 Chestnut Ave.
Balto. 21211, 410-467-3620
wa3tad@comcast.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,
WB2LOO, gkm313@verizon.net

WANTED: YOUR AD!
Your ad would have appeared here
if you sent it to us. Send your ad to
w3gk@verizon.net

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.videotaping-service.com>

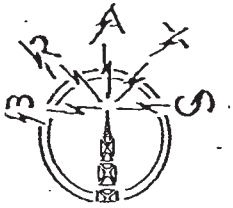
HAMS USING HOSPITAL ANTENNA

In Wisconsin, a bit of hospital equipment has just become ham equipment too. Recognizing the important role amateur radio signals can play in local disasters, Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital has given space on its tower to a local club repeater.

The Vilas County Amateur Radio Club, KD9DXK, has activated its repeater, making it ready for service in emergencies or to assist with community events.

Mark Dascalos, a spokesman for the hospital, told local National Public Radio member station WXPR recently that bringing the ham radio club onto the tower was a decision that made good sense. Dascalos said: QUOTE "...here in the Northwoods we have difficulty with cell signals and probably equal-wise with radio signals....It was an opportunity to use our tall antenna at the hospital to install a repeater."ENDQUOTE

Club members will make use of the expanded signal to provide communication support for community events as well as community disasters. The tower space is being provided free to the club. (WXPR.ORG via ARNewsline)



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January, 2016

Team Buffs to Hit right wavelength

RADIO hams will be manning a unique station in East Lancashire to offer train buffs all over the world the chance to share in the glory of the newly-renovated Flying Scotsman's return to the tracks.

RADIO hams will be manning a unique station in East Lancashire to offer train buffs all over the world the chance to share in the glory of the newly-renovated Flying Scotsman's return to the tracks.

In just under a fortnight the famed engine will be making the first of a series of runs along the East Lancashire Railway corridor from Bury Bolton Street to Rawtenstall, through Summerseat, Irwell Vale and Ramsbottom.

And to commemorate the landmark, members of Bury Amateur Radio Society will be setting up shop at Rawtenstall station - and hopefully taking in messages from across the globe.

Radio enthusiasts will be invited to hook up with the call handle 'GB0ELR' on the weekends of January 9 and 10, and again on January 16 and 17 as part of the heritage line's 'Scotsman in Steam' extravaganza.

Dave Robinson, society spokesman, said: "The radio station will be used to pass greetings messages on the occasion of the loco's running, to other radio amateurs, potentially worldwide, subject to atmospheric conditions, using the phonetics 'East Lancashire Railway' for 'ELR'.

"It will be freely accessible to visitors to try their hand should they wish, and will be operated jointly by members of the Bury Radio Society and licensed amateurs amongst the ELR working members."

An official run is planned for February from London's King's Cross station to York. The Doncaster-built loco was the first to top 100mph, between the capital and Leeds, in November 1934.

The loco, now 92-years-old, will then become a standing working exhibit at the York-based railway museum. (eham.net)

Renew: Regular \$15; retired/student/disabled \$10; Family \$20

Name _____ Call _____ e-mail _____

MAIL TO: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915; Baltimore, MD 21282-5915