

the milliwatt



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

September, 2017

BRATS MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Tuesday, Sept. 19 6:30 PM
Monday, Oct. 16 6:30 PM

Woodlawn Library
1811 Woodlawn Drive
Woodlawn, MD

PLEASE NOTE:

- All meetings start at 6:30 PM
- September meeting is on a Tuesday

7 week Technician Class

Thursdays from 6:30 to 9:30 PM
National electronics Museum
1745 West Nursery Rd. Linthicum
Starts September 7th
Bring your own ARRL License Manual
3rd edition, get from Amazon, ARRL or
Ham Radio Outlet
RSVP to reserve a spot'
Info: IMelenie.Maule@ngc.com or call
410-765-0589

SILENT KEY

Robert R. Shapiro, K2MYS

April 14, 2017

Bob was a longtime BRATS member.
He came to our hamfest each year
with his wife Stephanie, WA2IAD
Bob founded VTS, Video Taping Service.
We ran his ad in the Milliwatt each month.
He became a ham at age 12; he taught
Many ham classes; he was 79



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

Mayor D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

Some Thoughts

Now that the summer is just about over, it's time to get in on some contests, some special events, some dx hunting, Plenty to do in the coming season. Try something new, work all state, Work knew countries, operate CW for a change.... Whatever, try something new... You may like it, 73, Mayer, W3GXX

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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

President.: Kevin Sherwood, KB3PLX

Vice Pres; Oryx Gazella, K0RYX

Secretary: Ted Bauer, WA3AER

Treasurer: Jim Sherwood, KB3SKN

Chairman of the Board:

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX
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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 W3WCO

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 Bul

Sun 8 PM BRATS ATV net

AS Needed: Skywarn

BRATS Board of Directors

Through December, 2018

K2GZL, N3GXH

Through December, 2017

W3MSR, K9FXV

NEXT BRATS MEETING

Tuesday, September 19

6:30 PM, Woodlawn Library

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

Revised NCVEC Form 605 Must Now Be Used at Exam Sessions

With a revised FCC Form 605 -- *Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services* -- soon going into effect, the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has updated its unofficial NCVEC Form 605 that's used at volunteer examination sessions.

FCC BASIC QUALIFICATION QUESTION

This item enables the FCC to determine whether an Applicant is eligible under §§ 310(d) and 308(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended; to hold or have ownership interest in a station license. Applicants are required to answer the question only if 1) they are filing NCVEC or FCC Form 605 for one of the following purposes indicated: **New, Amendment, Modification (Upgrade or Call sign change), or Renewal/Modification**; and 2) the answer has changed from the answer previously provided. Applicants using NCVEC or FCC Form 605 for any other purpose are not required to answer this question.

FCC BASIC QUALIFICATION QUESTION INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES WHEN ANSWERING "YES"

If the answer to the basic qualification question (felony question) is 'YES', submit as an exhibit a statement explaining the circumstances and a statement giving the reasons why the Applicant believes that grant of the application would be in the public interest notwithstanding the actual or alleged misconduct. If the Applicant responds 'YES' to this question and has previously provided a statement and explanation regarding the circumstances as an attachment to a prior application filed in ULS, and the facts and circumstances are unchanged, the Applicant may refer to the previous application by identifying the application file number and indicating the disposition of the prior application. Find your FCC Application file number: <http://wireless2.fcc.gov/ULsApp/ApplicationSearch/searchAppl.jsp>

explanation to the felony question -- now included on NCVEC Form 605 -- will be used to determine eligibility to be a Commission licensee. If the answer to the felony question is "yes," the applicant must submit to FCC -- separately from NCVEC Form 605 -- a statement (the FCC calls it an "exhibit") explaining the circumstances. Such applications will be held for a basic qualification review, something the FCC already does for other licensed radio services. The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has said that an affirmative answer to the felony question does not mean that an application will be denied

The revised NCVEC Form 605 must now be used at exam sessions, effective August 21. In the "FCC Basic Qualification Question," both the new FCC and NCVEC forms ask applicants if they have been convicted of a felony in any state or federal court. This conforms with FCC requirements to evaluate an applicant's qualifications to hold any FCC-issued license. The FCC has been asking "the felony question" on other forms, and its omission on Form 605 was an apparent oversight.

An applicant's response and

ARRL Announces Colvin Award Grant to Bouvet Island 3Y0Z DXpedition:

The ARRL has granted a Colvin Award to help support the upcoming 3Y0Z DXpedition to Bouvet Island, the second most-wanted DXCC entity. The DXpedition is scheduled to get under way early next year. "This is a great team, putting forth a complicated DXpedition to the most remote island on Earth and one of the rarest of the rare DXCC entities," said ARRL Field Services Manager Dave Patton, NN1N. The Colvin Award is funded by an endowment established by Lloyd Colvin, W6KG (SK), who, with his wife Iris, W6QL (SK), logged more than 1 million contacts during their world travels, and assembled one of the largest QSL collections in the world. The Colvin Award is conferred in the form of grants in support of Amateur Radio projects that promote international goodwill in the field of DX. Applicants must be groups with a favorable track record in the field of DX and with experience that is directly related to the project being proposed. Proposed projects must have as a goal a significant achievement in the field of DX.

Ham Radio Operators Preparing to Ensure Communication During *Eclipse*

by W1ITT on August 18, 2017

Seriously now, does anyone really believe that the eclipse is going to be the cause of communications breakdowns, civil emergencies or any other form of strife? The emcomm wackers behind this sort of attitude remind me of the stories of folks back in the Middle Ages who worried during an eclipse that the sun might not re-emerge from behind the moon and civilization and even the earth itself would be doomed.

Too many hams have lurid fantasies about saving the world with their little "go-boxes". The truth is that the police and fire radio networks, as well as the cellphone systems are more robust than they were even a decade ago. The breathless articles I have seen recently about hams and "disasters" seem to lean heavily on overweight gray haired guys standing by...just in case. And they'll be standing by again, just in case the sun fails to emerge from behind the moon.

First Bulgarian Amateur Radio CubeSat to Launch in 2018:

The Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs (BFRA) is collaborating with the Space Challenges program and EnduroSat to launch the first Bulgarian Amateur Radio CubeSat -- *EnduroSat One*. The CubeSat will transmit a CW beacon and 9.6 k AX.25 telemetry on Amateur Radio frequencies. The 1U CubeSat will be launched to the International Space Station (ISS) for later deployment and will serve as an educational activity for the Space Challenges Program and hundreds of students from various universities in Bulgaria, teaching practical satellite communication and promoting the Amateur Radio hobby to young people. *EnduroSat One* will be manifested on a SpaceX CRS-14 cargo resupply mission to the ISS in February 2018 for later deployment into orbit.

The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Several readers pointed out that averages for the various indicators we track were not correct last week. The average daily sunspot number was 12.1 instead of 5, average daily solar flux was 73.2 instead of 71, the average daily planetary A index was 11.3 instead of 5, and the mid-latitude A index was 6.9, instead of 6.

The August 10-16 week showed average sunspot numbers at 15.3 and average solar flux at 72. Predicted solar flux is 78 on August 17-24; 68 on August 25-28; 70 on August 29; 72 on August 30-September 8; 70 on September 9; 68 on September 10-24; 70 on September 25, and 72 on September 26-30.

ARRL DX BULLETIN

SABLE ISLAND, CY0. Aaron, VA1AXC is QRV as CY0VA1AXC until the end of August. He is active on 20 meters using SSB. QSL via JE1LET.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO SPAIN, EA. A group of operators will. Operators F6BCW and F6DTZ are QRV as TX5EG from Moorea until September 5. They may also be active as FO/F6BCW and FO/F6DTZ, respectively. Activity is on 80 to 12 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via operators' instructions.

POLAND, SP. Special event station HF700LUB is QRV until August 2018 to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the city Lublin. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via SP8AB.

HAMFESTS

Sunday, October 1:

West Friendship, MD
CARA Hamfest
Howard County Fairgrounds
Dave, KB3VDY 410-977-1249

Sunday, October 22

Upperco, MD
Mason Dixon Hamfest
Carroll Co. Amateur Radio Club
Sportsman's Hall Roller Skating
Center: 15500 Hanover Pike
Upperco, MD
Steve Beckman, N3SB:
N3sb@qis.net
443-435-1089

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Sept 2-3 RSGB Field DY
All ASIAN DX Contest\
Phone
Tennessee QSO Party
Sept 2 Russian RTTY WW Contest\
Sept 8-10 SARL Field Day
ARRL September VHF Contest
Sept 16-17 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
Scandinavian Activity CW
All-Africa Int'l DX Contest
NH, Iowa qSO Party
Washington State Salmon Run

BARC VE EXAMS

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
905 Frederick Rd. Catonsville, MD

Registration begins at 2:00 PM
Exams begin at 2:30 PM
**NO ONE ADMITTED AFTER
EXAMS BEGIN**

pre-register by email:
info@veteam.org

NEXT EXAMS

Sept. 2. Oct. 7

BARC Meetings

First Wednesday, 7 PM
All meetings at Wegmans
Hunt Valley, in the upstairs
dining room.....

CARA

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

LARC VE EXAMS

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

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

Milliwatt Swap Shop\

Ads are free...

Mail your ad to BRATS, Box 5915,
Baltimore, MD 21282, email:
w3gxx@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, w3gxx@verizon.net

JADE COMPPUTERS
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
wa3lad@comcast.net

WANTED AC Gilbert erecto 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
w3gxx@verizon.net

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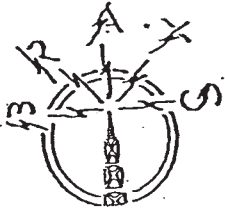
Phone/text 516-658-6947; email: hamradiomanuals@aol.com

Joe and Crew, JHS 22 ARC (WB2JKJ)

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

Name _____ Call _____ e-mail _____

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



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Canada Proposes Implementing A 60-Meter Band While Retaining Discrete Channels:

An Industry Canada (IC) regulatory consultation http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/h_sf10780.html (proceeding) aimed at implementing the changes from the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) could lead to the allocation of a 60-meter band in Canada in addition to the five discrete channels that are congruent with those in the US. IC is seeking comments on this and other revisions that take WRC-15 into account.

"The consultation is the first step in the process for regulatory changes," International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 Area A Director George Gorsline, VE3YV, explained. "After the 60-day period, responses are tabulated, made public, and the regulator then determines how to proceed." Gorsline said there is no fixed schedule, and it could be "months or much longer" before any allocation changes are made. Even then, he added, Canada's Amateur Radio regulations would have to be updated to incorporate them before the new allocation would become available for amateur use. As the Consultation notes, a number of countries have authorized, subject to various restrictions, operation by Amateur Radio licensees within the 5,250-5,450 kHz frequency range. "To date, no interference has been reported," IC said in the consultation. "Ultimately, a worldwide, secondary allocation of 15 kHz in the frequency band 5,351.5-5,366.5 kHz was made to the Amateur Service with an effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP) limit of 15 W" in most of Region 2. "The proposed changes to the Canadian Table [of Allocations] will allow Canadian Amateur Radio operators to assist in domestic and international emergency or disaster relief situations," IC said. The regulator proposed retaining the five discrete channels already available to radio amateurs -- 5,332, 5,348, 5,358.5, 5,373, and 5,405 kHz. In January, ARRL

petitioned <https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/101122964205072/Petition%20for%20Rule%20Making%205%20MHz%20FINAL%20January%2012%2C%202017.pdf> the FCC to allocate the same contiguous band -- 5,351.5-5,366.5 kHz -- to US radio amateurs with a 100 W PEP power limit, while also retaining the five discrete 60-meter channels that have been available for several years. Read more <http://www.arrrl.org/news/canada-proposes-implementing-a-60-meter-band-while-retaining-discrete-channels>.