

the milliwatt



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

December. 2016

BREAKING NEWS: FCC CHAIRMAN TOM WHEELER STEPPING DOWN

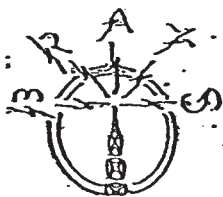
The top regulator of communications in the U.S. would resign his post. FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler, an Obama appointee who championed the net neutrality policy, said his last day would be Jan. 20, the day Donald Trump takes the oath of office. The long-term impact on the agency and its regulations is the subject of speculation: Wheeler's departure leaves a tilted balance with fewer Democratic than Republican commissioners. A spokesman for Democrat Mignon Clyburn said on Thursday, Dec. 15 that her plan is to serve until mid-2017 when her term expires. Liberal Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel's term has ended and she is expected to leave the FCC by Dec. 31. As president, Trump will appoint Wheeler's successor.

SSTV: RADIO FOR YOUR EYES AS WELL AS EARS

: As hams celebrate the 18th anniversary of the activation of a Slow Scan TV System aboard Russia's now-deorbited MIR Space Station, another SSTV enthusiast - this one in Hawaii - has created a project giving hams a closer look at what the mode can do. While Slow Scan TV isn't anything new on the HF bands, Darren Holbrook KH6OWL, an enthusiast in Honolulu, Hawaii, has added something new to the mix: a website that shares some recent Slow Scan TV images sent to him from around the world on 20 meters. It's an online gallery of about a dozen or so pictures and it invites visiting hams to explore this mode of image transmission.

Visit the Amateur Radio Newline website, arnewsline.org, and in our printed script of this newscast, you'll find a link to that web page and its online images.
http://www.wb9kmw.com/KH6OWL/live_SSTV.html

SEASONS GREETINGS



the Baltimore

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

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

Some Thoughts

As we complete another year, we are pleased with all that went well and all that we are planning for the net year. Look at the new business section of the 'minutes on page 3 to see what is in store. We wish you all appropriate holiday Greetings and a year of good health and Happiness. 73, Mayer, W3GXX

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 Bul
Sun 8 PM BRATS ATV net
AS Needed: Skywarn

BRATS Board of Directors
Through December, 2018
K2GZL, N3GXH
Through December, 2017
W3MSR, K9FXV

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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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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

Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society
MINUTES of the 28 November 2016
Monthly Meeting

OryxG, K0RYX, chaired the meeting held at Greene Turtle, Owings Mills.

/REPORTS

- Treasurer: Treasurer's report read and submitted.
- Repeater/Equipment: No issues reported with any 2M or 440MHz repeaters. Provided Ken, K3UQQ, with input power spec for ATV repeater amp (7W peak for D1010ATV Repeater Amplifier). Discussed the imperative need to coordinate all visits to work on repeaters and ATV equipment at N. Balto. location. Ken was asked to provide email report of recent work done. There is confusion over the state of the antenna on the non-pen mount (mount has a leak).

/OLD BUSINESS

- IOTA: Discussed possible improvements and operating options for 2017. Will explore using K3SAV fan dipole and foredeck operation. Ongoing issues with noise on ship's vertical argue against its use. Will coordinate with Cliff at NSS to do trial run testing in April.
- Repeater Software Stack: Oryx is progressing with new software to replace cumbersome Asterisk package. Capable of running on all but early RaspberryPi processors. Much improved voting function due to improved front end signal analysis. COS/CSQ in place; PL support needs to be developed.
- Contacts List: item remains open
- Equipment Installations: new 440MHz and 2M Tx, along with 2M amp, await installation.

/NEW BUSINESS

- 2017 Nominations: existing officer slate, with Kevin and Oryx changing positions as VP and President, forwarded. Chris, K9FXV, and Mark, W3MSR, forwarded as Board members. Elections at the December meeting.
- Holiday Meeting: The annual Holiday Meeting will be held on Monday, December 12, at Greene Turtle, Owings Mills.
- 2017 Dues: It is time to renew your BRATS membership.

Ted, WA3AER
Secretary

Santa Net on 3.916 MHz:

Santa Net on 3.916 MHz!!!

The Santa Net is on the air every night, November 25th through December 24th at 7:30 PM Central. The countdown to Christmas has begun, get all those good boys and girls on the radio to talk to Santa! Amateur Radio Newsline has always been a proud supporter of the Santa Net operators and Pete Thomson KE5GGY for all the efforts that are made.

<http://www.tailgatersnet.com/santa-net.html> (KB7TBT)

TIME TO WORK SANTA'S WORKSHOP

As most kids will tell you, good things come from Santa's workshop, and something very special came out of last year's special event known as the W2S New Jersey Santa's Workshop. The first-time event led to this year's repeat of that event, which begins Saturday the 10th of December and concludes on Friday the 23rd of December. Be listening carefully and keep the children nearby. According to Chuck Weber W2CCW, you never know when St. Nick will show up in the shack and he has a QSL card with a special message for everyone.

ESSAY CONTEST FOR YOUNG HAMS

There's another event geared toward enthusiastic youngsters - an essay contest! - In 500 words or less, can you sum up your feelings about amateur radio - what it means to you and what your hopes are for your future on the air? If you are between 12 and 18 years of age, a resident of one of the 48 contiguous United States and are licensed as a Technician or at a higher level, it might just pay to put some of your thoughts on paper. The Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure is running an essay contest for a complete ham station and the youngster whose words capture the judges' attention most will end up with a nicely equipped shack. The prize includes an Aiinco SR8T HF, a 12 V, 30 A power supply (Jetstream or equivalent), vertical antenna (Jetstream JTV680 or equivalent), and 100 feet of coax feed line fitted with PL-259 connectors. The cofounders of the DX Youth Adventure and this year's raffle winner Paul Ewing N6PSE are the generous donors behind this competition. There's bound to be a pile-up, so act fast: Postal mail entries or email entries should either be postmarked or electronically dated by midnight of December 23. For rules and an entry form visit qsl.net/n6jrl. Winners will be announced by January 31. KB3TZD

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Dec. 10-11 ARRL 10 Meter Contest
Dec 14 QRP Fox Hunt
Dec 16 NCC RTTY Sprint
Dec 17 OK RTTY DX Contest
Dec 17-18 Croatian CW Contest
Dec 18 ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW
Dec 26 DARC Christmas Contest

SILENT KEY

Donald Friedmann, W3QYL

December 3, 2016

Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI, to Chair Powerful House Energy and Commerce Committee

US Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who championed the Amateur Radio Parity Act (H.R. 1301) as the chair of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, will chair the US House Energy and Commerce Committee when the 115th Congress convenes in January. Energy and Commerce is considered one of the most powerful congressional panels on Capitol Hill.

Walden gained favor within the Republican Party after serving two terms as head of the National Republican Congressional Committee. The nine-term Oregon lawmaker, had campaigned around the country with Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) during the run-up to the November election, and Walden's selection to head Energy and Commerce over a more senior colleague is being considered recognition of his role in the GOP's election successes. Ryan spoke in favor of Walden's candidacy to head Energy and Commerce. After the vote, Walden praised Shimkus and Barton as "good friends" and "excellent legislators."

During a Capitol Hill hearing last January, Walden, a cosponsor of H.R. 1301, called the measure "a commonsense bill" and urged his colleagues to support moving the measure forward to the full committee. In July, Walden had recommended the amended version of the bill to his colleagues as "a good balance." The bill now awaits action in the U.S. Senate. Walden represents Oregon's second Congressional district.

BARC VE EXAMS
Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
905 Frederic Rd. Catonsville, MD

BARC MEETINGS
First Wednesday at 7 PM
Wegman's Hunt Valley
Upstairs dining room.

Registration starts at 2 PM

Exams at 2:30 PM

**NO ONE ADMITTED AFTER
EXAMS BEGIN**

Pre-register by email:
info@veteam.org

NEXT EXAMS:
Saturday, January 7
Sunday, January 8

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

LARC VE EXAMS
364 Main St. Laurel, MD
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

Amateur Radio Parity Act Bill Unable to Overcome Florida Senator's Objections:

The Amateur Radio Parity Act, H.R. 1301, suffered an unbecoming demise on December 9 as the 114th Congress drew to a close. After passing the House of Representatives on a unanimous vote earlier this fall, the bill stalled in the Senate due to the intervention of only one member, Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL). The measure would have directed the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land-use restrictions, such as covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CCRs) imposed by homeowners associations.

In a final meeting with Nelson's staff as the 114th Congress neared adjournment, it became clear that no matter what was said or done, the Senator would oppose the bill and refuse to allow it to move forward. Because the measure had not been put on the floor schedule, the only way it could have passed the Senate would have been through a process called "unanimous consent." A Senate member may request unanimous consent on the floor to set aside rules and expedite proceedings. If any single Senator objects, though, the request is rejected.

The unhappy ending followed nearly 2 years of intense effort on the part of ARRL and thousands of its members, who contacted their Congressional representatives to urge their support of the measure on Capitol Hill. The ARRL Board of Directors is expected to discuss the future of the initiative at its January meeting.

Milliwatt Swap Shop

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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, w3qk@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
wa3lad@comcast.net

WANTED AC Gilbert erectol sets:
Old, new, large, small, need not be
Complete. CASH PAID!
Lewis, 410-296-4874.

WANTED: Manual for MFJ 1452,
WB2LOO, gkm313@verizon.net

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Your ad would have appeared here
if you sent it to us. Send your ad to
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Video tape transferred to DVD,
Standards, conversions...
1-877-891-1002. BRATS
member Bob Shapiro, K2MYS
<http://www.videotaping-service.com>

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HAM RADIO Manuals

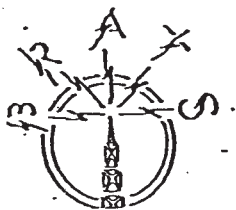
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Phone/text 516-658-6947; email: hamradiomanuals@aol.com

Joe and Crew, JHS 22 ARC (WB2JKJ)

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December, 2016

WORLD OF DX

Matt VK1MA will be using the call sign VK9NM while visiting Norfolk Island from December 19th through the 26th. He will upload logs to Logbook of The World.

Help the Liechtenstein Radio Amateur Society celebrate its 30th anniversary this year by working their special event station HB0AFVL. Hams will be on the air until the end of December and contacts will receive a special QSL card.

ARRL DX |

KENYA, 5Z. Sila, AK0SK plans to be QRV as 5Z4/AK0SK from Taveta from December 22 to January 6, 2017. Activity will be on 80 to 10eters using SSB. QSL to home call.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Vlad, UA4WHX is QRV as C50VB. Activity is currently on 40, 30, 20 and 17 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Robert, DU7ET is QRV as 4F7OC from Negros Island, IOTA OC-129, until January 15, 2017. QSL direct to home call.

ST. LUCIA, J6. Bill, K9HZ will be QRV as J68HZ from December 17 to January 2, 2017. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL direct to home call.

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

Name _____ Call _____ e-mail _____

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