

# the milliwatt



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

October, 2012

## **NEXT BRATS MEETING October 15, One Week LATER Than Usual**

The next BRATS Meeting will take place **ONE WEEK LATER THAN USUAL** since the library is **CLOSED** on our regular meeting night, which is Columbus Day. Please remember that we will meet on Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 PM, at our usual site The Pikesville Library, 1301 Reisterstown Road at 7:15 PM, Please plan join us!

## **KOSOVO NOW OFFICIALLY ON THE AIR**

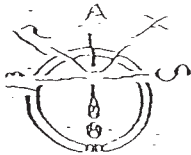
The Republic of Kosovo is now officially on the air. Station Z-60-K near Pristina commenced amateur radio operation shortly after 1700 UTC on September 17th. The call had been issued to the club station of the Amateur Radio Association of Kosovo. For this operation QSL via G3TXF or using ClubLog. It has to be noted that as Kosovo is not yet a member of the United Nations nor does it have an assigned callsign block allocated by the International Telecommunications Union, it does not meet the established requirements of the ARRL's DXCC program at this time. However CQ has recognized Kosovo as a separate entity for its award and contest programs since 2007. More is on line at [www.art-ks.org](http://www.art-ks.org) (DXNL, CQ Newsroom, via ARNewsline))

## **BILL TYNAN W3XO TO RECEIVE RCA BARRYGOLDWATER AWARD**

The Radio Club of America has announced that former AMSAT North America President Bill Tynan, W3XO, is to be the recipient of its 2012 Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio Award. The award recognizes Tynan's lifelong service to the public through amateur radio. The award will be presented to W3XO at the club's annual awards banquet in New York on November 16th. ARRL Chief Executive Officer Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, will be the keynote speaker at the event. (RCA, W2RS, via ARNewsline))

### **Looking for a new Secretary**

After more than 38 years as Secretary to the BRATS, Mayer, W3GXX has decided to retire... If you are interested in running for office at our December elections meeting (December), please let any of the current officers know. All officers are listed on page 2 of each issue...



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

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXK, Editor

## Some Thoughts, 29 ½...

Traditionally, the final article of a journalist or columnist is called "30". This is not a "30" column but it is one of my last as Secretary to The BRATS. I do plan to continue editing The MILLIWATT as long as people appreciate my efforts. For almost 40 years as Secretary, I have had fun helping to run the BRATS. But now is the time to stop- when it's not fun any longer. It was fun helping to run hamfests, it was fun dealing with other ham clubs and organizations... But the time has come. I wish my successor all the best. May he/she have the same fun I had. Thanks and 73. Mayer, W3GXK

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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](mailto:brats@bratsatv.org)

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

**President:** Ed Rosen, N3GXH

**Vice Pres.:** Kevin Sherwood, KB3PLX

**Secretary:** Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXK

**Treasurer:** Jim Sherwood, KB3SKN

**Chairman of the Board:** Heru Walmsley, W3WVW

**Vice Chair., Technical:** Mike Dees, N3EZD

**Vice Chair., Operations:** Ian Millett, N3CVA

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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: Skywam

## BRATS BOARD OF DIRECTOR

Through December, 2013:

WA3SWA, K2GZL, W3ZQI

Through December, 2012:

K9FXV, KA3ZMN, K0RYX

## BRATS MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Second Monday, 7:15 PM

Pikesville Library

1301 Reisterstown Road

## Next BRATS Meetings

at the Pikesville Library

1301 Reisterstown Rd.

Monday, October 15, 7:15 PM

(One week LATER than usual)-

Monday, November 12, 7:15 PM

## **Deployment of five CubeSats from the International Space Station**

The long awaited deployment of five CubeSats from the International Space Station will take place on Thursday, September 27. Four of the micro sized birds carry amateur radio payloads. These are identified as F-1, FITSAT-1, WE-WISH and TechEdSat. More about this microsat project is online at [www.uk.amsat.org/10119](http://www.uk.amsat.org/10119).

## **The Republic of South Sudan has issued its first amateur radio licence**

The Republic of South Sudan has issued its first amateur radio licence. The callsign Z81A went to Jim Pratt, who also holds the US callsign K7QI. The second licence was Z81D, issued to Diya Al Sadi, Y11DZ. Both are reportedly now on the air.

## **Tanzania**

DL7VSN will be active from Tanzania through October 13th. His operation will be from two locations using the 5H1HS from Zanzibar Island and 5H1HS/3 from Lazy Lagoon Island. Activity is expected on 160 through 10 meters using mainly CW and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign. More about his operation is on-line at Visit his Web page at [www.gsl.net/dl7vsn](http://www.gsl.net/dl7vsn) (ARNewsline)

## **FRENCH POLYNESIA GETS BROADBAND ACCESS**

Another remote area of the world is now on-line. : High speed Internet access has come to the islands of the South Pacific. This with word that OmniAccess has expanded its network coverage in the remote French Polynesian islands. The news follows the company's investment into the opening of a high-capacity network on the Intelsat 18 satellite that first became operational in November 2011. This provides the capacity to enable enhanced broadband internet coverage and network services via Ku-band coverage platform to that isolated part of the world. As a result, for the first time private yachts, charter yachts and commercial vessels cruising in the region can now benefit from high quality uninterrupted broadband connectivity via the new high speed service. More on this new service can be found by going to [www.noonsite.com](http://www.noonsite.com) and using the search engine at that website. (noonsite.com via K4CPX, ARNewsline))

## **WESTERN STATES VHF/UHF WEAK SIGNAL NET ON SUNDAYS**

The Western States VHF/UHF Weak Signal 75m Net meets every Sunday on 3.920 MHz at 17:30 Pacific Daylight Time. This net is a wide ranging discussion dealing with all aspects of VHF to microwave building, contesting, and operating. More about this weekly gathering is on-line at [www.weaksig.net](http://www.weaksig.net) (N8DEZ)

## **Attention Kit Builders -- The ARRL Wants to Hear from You!**

The ARRL wants to hear from kit builders about simple, useful, educational and exciting kits. These kits should have a high probability for success and would serve as stepping stones for more advanced projects. We are looking all sorts of kits, but RF detector kits that work in the 380 MHz-2.5 GHz range are of special interest. The kits should also have a "Wow, I built this and it works!" factor. If you know of such a kit, please let us know by filling out a simple form here <http://www.arrl.org/technology> by October 31.

## **RADIO BANGLADESH VACATES 7.105 MHZ**

Some good news for users of the low end of 40 meters. The Radio Society of Great Britain reports that Radio Bangladesh has left 7 point 105 MHz after the broadcaster finished its experimental transmissions and is now using 7 dot 250 MHz in the shared portion of the band. The move is likely due to the many amateur radio operators world wide who reported the infringement on the band. Particular thanks go to the German telecommunications authority which filed the official complaints to Radio Bangladesh. (GB2RS, via AR Newsline))

## **SOLAR CME HITS EARTH ON SEPTEMBER 3RD**

If you were wondering about the strange band conditions this past week you can blame it on old Sol. This after a Coronal Mass Ejection or C-M-E hit Earth's magnetic field on at approximately 1200 UTC on Monday, September 3rd. According to Spaceweather.com the impact induced measurable ground currents in the soil of northern Scandinavia and sparked bright auroras around the Arctic Circle. In fact, at the time the alert was issued, a moderately strong geomagnetic storm that lasted several days was underway. For current and future information on what the Sun is up to and how it might affect radio propagation here on Earth simply take your web browser to spaceweather.com for the very latest updates. (Spaceweather)

## **ZAMBIA MAKES READY FOR DIGITAL BROADCASTING**

The Zambian government has issued 10 licenses and 16 construction permits to radio and TV stations in the country. Those chosen are expected to switch to digital broadcasting before the 2013 deadline set by the Southern Africa Development Community. According to the nations Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services, the move is intended to enhance participation in the affairs of the country, as well as offer people an opportunity to air their views on issues of national interest. (RW, AR Newsline )

## **COMMEMORATING THE LIBERATION OF KNOCKE BELGIUM**

On the air, special event station ON44CLM will be operational from October 16th through November 15th in commemoration of the liberation of the town of Knokke in Belgium by the Canadian Army in 1944. The C-L-M suffix stands for Canadian Liberation March. More information is on-line at [www.on44clm.be](http://www.on44clm.be). (Southgate via AR Newsline)

## **CELEBRATING THE DUBLIN BUS**

Hams in Erin's Isle have taken to the air to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Dublin Bus with special event special event station E-I-25-D-B operational from now through June 30th of 2013. The station will be operated by current and former employees of Dublin Bus Company led by EI9HQ and EI4GZB. QSL this operation to EI9HQ or electronically using either Logbook of the World or HamLog.eu. The Dublin Bus Company is a major public transportation supplier throughout the city of Dublin, Ireland. (Southgate, via AR Newsline))

## **VOODOO CONTEST CLUB TO BE ACTIVE FROM LIBERIA**

For the 24th straight year look for the VooDoo Contest Group to again be active from Liberia between November 21<sup>st</sup> and the 27th. Operations will be from a location just South of Monrovia, the capital of Liberia. Their main goal is to be an entry in the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest on November 24th and 25th as a Multi-Multi category using the callsign E-L-2-A. Outside of the contest the operators will use their own personal callsigns. QSL as directed by each operator. (OPDX via ARNewsline))

## ARRL DX Bulletin

**LEBANON, OD.** John, OD5RW is again QRV on 80 to 10 meters, including 2 meters and 70 cm, using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and a variety of other digital modes, including D-Star. QSL via K8NA.

**VANUATU, YJ.** Rod, YJ8RN is QRV as YJ8RN/p from Loh Island, IOTA OC-110. Activity is mainly on 20 meters using SSB. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

**SOUTH SUDAN, Z8.** Jim, K7QI and Diya, Y11DZ now hold calls Z81A and Z81D, respectively. Activity may be on 160 to 10 meters as conditions allow. QSL Z81A via K7GSE and Z81D via OM3JW

### From AR Newsline:

G0VJG will be operational stroke 3A from Monaco between October 1st and the 5th. His activity will be on the High Frequency bands using 100 watts on SSB only. QSL via G4DFI.

A multi-national team is on the air from **Conway Reef** in the South Pacific Ocean. They plan to be there through October 5th using the callsign 3D2C

## WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Oct 3	German Telegraphy Contest
Oct 4	SARL 80m QSO Party
Oct 5-7	YLRL Anniversary Contest
Oct 6-7	EPC Russia DX Contest Oceania DX Contest, Phone California QSO Party
Oct 13-14	Oceania DX Contest, CW Scandinavian Activity, Phone QRP ACRI Fall QSO Party Pennsylvania QSO Party Arizona QSO Party
Oct 15-19	ARRL School Club Roundup
Oct 20	Iowa QSO Party
Oct 20-21	NY QSO Party Worked all Germany Contest
Oct. 21	Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint ,CW
Oct 21-22	Illinois QSO Party
Oct 27-28	<b>CQ WW DX Contest, SSB</b>

## Upcoming Oceania Dx Contest

The Oceania Dx Contest takes place over the first two full weekends of October and one category seems to get overlooked - that is the clubs category sponsored by the VK Contest Club - The VK Contest Club (VKCC) is a group of keen contesters who are bound together by a love of contesting and a Yahoo Group - the club is free to join. The VKCC members are keen contestants in the Oceania Dx contest and have created a special trophy inside the Oceania contest for the Club with the highest number of entrants - its interesting in that the award is for the most entrants and only in the event of a tie are the individual scores considered. Make a beeline for the SSB and CW weekend and see how many of your club members can jump on the HF bands - they must make 50 contacts to qualify and a minimum number of entrants required is only 3 - Last years winner was EMDRC with three entrants - make it tough on them to defend their title !!! Look forward to hearing everyone on air for the most active VK and ZL contest, the Oceania DX contest

## Plasma powered Amateur Radio satellite PROITERES

The Japanese amateur radio satellite **PROITERES** is planned to launch Sunday, September 9 at 0421 UT from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Satish Dhawan space centre. The satellite SPOT6 was on the same launch into a 695 km x 695 km, 98.2° inclination orbit. The rocket was fitted with the mini Redundant Strapdown Inertial Navigation System (mRESINS). PROITERES was built by a team of students and faculty members of Osaka Institute of Technology (OIT) and the spacecraft aims to demonstrate powered flight using a Pulsed Plasma Thruster (PPT) engine. PROITERES stands for Project of OIT Electric-Rocket-Engine Onboard Small Space Ship and will transmit on 437.485 MHz FM/AFSK. The spacecraft carries a camera and the two CPU's run the Linux operating system. The amateur radio callsign is JL3YZK.

## Hamfests

**Sunday, October 7** W. Friendship, MD  
CARAFest Howard Co. Fairgrounds  
Route 144 at Rte. 32, adjacent to I-70  
Dave, W8AJR, 443-812-4403; 147.135/R

**Sunday, October 21** Westminster MD  
Mason Dixon Hamfest; Carroll County  
Agr. Center, Route 32, Westminster  
145.41/R; Steve, N3SB; 410-876-1482  
[n3sb@qis.net](mailto:n3sb@qis.net)

## CONVENTIONS

There are two conventions coming up. One will be our Maryland State Convention that will be held at the October 7 CARAFest at the Howard county Fairgrounds. There will be an ARRL Forum and Ken Bailey, K1FUG, from ARRL headquarters will be speaking on emergency communications. There will be other speakers also.

## 2012 Operations Approved

On September 19, the ARRL DXCC Desk approved the following 2012 operations for DXCC credit:

3B8/IW5ELA (Mauritius)  
9A8VB (Croatia)  
4O7VB (Montenegro)  
E40VB (Palestine)  
E7/UA4WHX (Bosnia-Herzegovina)  
EY8/UA4WHX (Tajikistan)  
JY8VB (Jordan)  
UN/UA4WHX (Kazakhstan).  
YU9VB (Serbia)  
Z38VB (Macedonia)  
|ZA/UA4WHX (Albania)

## VE Exams

LARC, 364 Main St Laurel  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. 9 AM John, WB3GXW,  
301-572-5124  
Historic Electronics Museum,  
Linthicum  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 6 PM, Harold, WB4OGF  
410-757-0493 (h); 410-712-6829(w)

## 2012 BARC VE Exams

Registration at 1:30 PM  
Exams start at 2 PM  
12360 Owings Mills Blvd.

October 7, Nov. 3,  
~~December 1.~~ (Thanks, N3YI)

## Aero Amateur Radio Club

### 2012 Testing Schedule

Where: Essex Branch Baltimore County  
Public Library

1110 Eastern Blvd. Essex Md. 21221

Time 1:pm

Dates:

September 22 November 17

Test Fee: \$15

Contact: Pat Stone AC3F, 410-687-7209

[ac3f@juno.com](mailto:ac3f@juno.com) Walk-ins welcome

<http://www.aeroarc.us/vetesting.html>

An ARRL VEC Affiliate

## Get Well Wishes

Get well wishes to AI, K3BVC,  
recovering at home after surgery  
for 6 by-passes!

# Milliwatt Swap Shop

Ads are free and get results!

Send your ad to: BRATS, Box 5915,

Baltimore, MD 21282-5915, or

email to: [w3qyk@verizon.net](mailto:w3qyk@verizon.net)

FOR SALE: Hustler G7-144, \$125. You pick up. HRO discount price \$199. Only 2 months old, took down to put up dual band antenna.

lark, N3BHE, 410-299-5931

WANTED: SMA to BNC adaptor for VX 150.

Jerry, KB3AP, 410-616-9798

FOR SALE: ICOM T2H 2 mtr. HT w/ charger belt clip, rubber ducky, manual, asking \$80

K3BCD: 410-866-5441; or [wmm@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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

## The 5MHz Newsletter

A new Newsletter has been launched to support the growing number of 5MHz operating permissions globally. The 5MHz Newsletter is edited by Paul Gaskell, G4MWO, one of the original RSGB 5MHz team. It aims to be both an accurate information source of news about 5MHz and a platform for exchange of ideas, be they theoretical, operational, constructional or just general comments about the band. You can freely access the 5MHz Newsletter from Google Documents at <http://tinyurl.com/6fkhcmf>. Although originating in the UK, the 5MHz Newsletter invites world-wide interest, both in readers and contributors. Understandably all that we ask is when contributing items of news concerning new 5MHz permissions or allocations, that the contributor can provide a means of official verification of such. It is hoped to produce the 5MHz Newsletter on a quarterly basis, its size being dependent of course on news and other relevant contributions from 5MHz operators and listeners around the world. (RSGB)

## JADE COMPUTERS

1009 Ingleside Ave. Baltimore, MD 21228

443-677-4187. [joe@jadecomputers.us](mailto: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.videotaping-service.com>

## Antique Radio Repair, Restoration

Eric, WA3TAD, audio visual service, retro radio.

3401 Chestnut Ave., Baltimore, MD. 21211.

410-467-3620; [wa3tad@comcast.net](mailto:wa3tad@comcast.net)

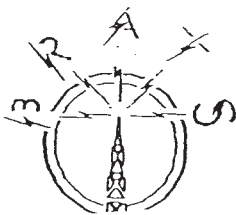
WANTED: AT 930 for TS-930S. Please send condition and price. Jerry. [jerry.mcf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jerry.mcf@sbcglobal.net)

WANTED: AC Gilbert erector sets: old, new, large small; need not be complete. CASH PAID, Lewis, 410-296-4874

**Come and Get 'em! Two five-foot satellite dishes. Call Les, W3GXT, 410-833-8667**

WANTED: Manual for MFJ 1452

Greg, WB2LOO; [gjm1313@verizon.net](mailto:gjm1313@verizon.net)



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October, 2012

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Monday, October 15, 7:15 PM  
(One week LATER than usual)-  
Monday, November 12, 7:15 PM

## OFCOM LIFTS TEMPORARY SPECTRUM RESTRICTIONS ON UHF AND SHF BANDS USED FOR OLYMPICS

UK telecommunications regulator Ofcom has announced that as of midnight on September 23rd, temporary operating restrictions on parts of the 70 centimeter and several microwave bands have come to an end. The restrictions on spectrum usage by British radio amateurs had been put in place to permit use of several spectral parcels in relation to the now conceded 2012 London Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. (RSGB, via ARNewline))

## OTHER CLUB MEETINGS:

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

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

AMRAD: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 PM  
Dolley Madison Library  
14 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean, VA

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

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

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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_ BRATS No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Mail to: BRATS, Box 5915, Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

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