

Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1441
Muncie, IN 47308



The MAARC Exciter

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MAARC Officers:

- President:
Joshua Beeson, N9GQA
N9gqa@arrl.net
- Vice President:
Gary Lee, KB9ZUV
- Secretary:
David Doiron, WA1MKE
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- Treasurer:
Jeff Cox, KA9HIJ
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- Station Trustee:
Sonny McCoy, WA9DOL

Membership Information:

Membership in the Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club (MAARC) is open to all Amateurs. Applications should be submitted to the club secretary. The purpose of MAARC is to bring together, for their mutual benefit, persons interested in the various areas of the Amateur Radio Service. Any interested person is cordially invited to attend one or more of our regularly scheduled meetings. We meet on the third Sunday of the month at the Marin-Hunt school library in Muncie at 2 PM. This month's meeting will be May 15, 2005.

Please send general club correspondence to:

MAARC president
PO Box 1441
Muncie, IN 47308

US HOUSE RESOLUTION CALLS ON FCC TO EVALUATE BPL INTERFERENCE, REVIEW RULES

Rep Michael Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, has introduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives calling on the FCC to "conduct a full and complete analysis" of radio interference from broadband over power line (BPL). The resolution, H. Res 230, says the Commission should comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," and--in light of that analysis--to "reconsider and review" its new BPL rules, adopted last October. If approved by the full House, the non-binding resolution, introduced April 21, would express the requests as "the sense of the House of Representatives."

"We are grateful to Congressman Ross and his staff for taking a leadership position in recognizing that the BPL interference issue deserves more careful consideration than the FCC was willing to give it under former Chairman Powell," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. The resolution has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, on which Ross serves.

The resolution's prime focus is on BPL's potential to disrupt critical public safety radio communication. It cites National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) studies that "have determined that broadband over power line creates a 'high risk' of radio wave interference, and that harmful interference to public safety mobile radio receivers can be expected at distances of 75 meters from the power line where broadband over power line is in operation, and at distances of up to 460 meters from fixed stations, such as VHF police or fire dispatch communications facilities."

The resolution notes that the same NTIA study determined that BPL interference to aeronautical and airline travel communications "could be expected at distances up to 40 kilometers from the center of the broadband over power line system, and that interference to outer marker beacons for airline instrument landing systems could be expected at great distances as well."

Many public safety agencies and support services, including emergency medical services, fire, and law enforcement, utilize Low-Band VHF (30-50 MHz), the resolution points out. According to the resolution, at least 13 states--California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia

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The President's Corner



Josh Beeson, N9GQA
President

Recall Vote Results From the April 2005 MAARC Meeting

A vote to determine whether Sonny McCoy, WA9DOL, our present Trustee, should be removed from office was conducted at the April 2005 regular meeting.

A motion was made by Dave, KC6ETE, and seconded by Don, K1FZY, at the March 2005 meeting, to remove WA9DOL from office under Article VII (6) of the MAARC constitution. The voting procedure is governed by Article VI (1) of the MAARC constitution.

The club voted to retain Sonny as our Trustee. His term will end in October of 2006.

Dave Doiron, WA1MKE
MAARC Secretary

Greetings fellow club members. I hope everyone is enjoying the spring weather. I would like to thank Gary Lee for the work he has put in so far on the Club's Website located at www.wb9hxxg.org. I hope to see everyone at the club meeting which comes a little early this month on May 15, 2005. Gary Lee is looking for much needed volunteers to help him with this year's Field Day. If you can help get in touch with him as soon as possible. Also, do

not forget about the Dayton Hamvention coming up on May 20, 21, and 22 in Dayton, Ohio. It should be a great informative time that only comes around once a year. I will see everyone at the meeting.

73's, Josh, N9GQA

NEW AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE IN ORBIT

HAMSAT is the latest Amateur Radio satellite in orbit. Launched this week, it is India's first. Although it doesn't yet have an OSCAR designation, several stations--including W1AW--already have completed contacts through its SSB/CW transponder.

"We congratulate all who have worked for the HAMSAT and its successful launch," said AMSAT-India Treasurer Sandip Shah, VU3SXE, who was among more than a dozen radio amateurs at the control center in Bangalore, India, for

the May 5 launch. With several dignitaries--including India's president--on hand to watch, the satellite went aloft from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR in Sriharikota.

Going into space along with the 42.5 kg HAMSAT was the primary payload--the 1560 kg Indian remote sensing satellite, CARTOSAT-1, intended for mapping applications. The spacecraft were placed into polar sun synchronous orbit at an altitude of 632 x 621 km with an equatorial inclination of 97.8 degrees.

The microsat will pro-

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Editor's Notes

One week until the Dayton Hamvention. Christmas in May!

Unlike past years where our meeting and the Hamvention seemed to clash, this year we have about a week between the events. Club members will have a chance to



Dave,
WA1MKE

plan for this premier event on the amateur calendar. I'll be there along with my "May Term" class from the

academy. I've even attracted a couple of BSU students so there are potentially 8 new amateurs in this group. I'll keep you posted as to the progress!

I'm also planning some changes to my shack. I plan to move to a sun-

nier part of my house where there are more electric outlets and a shorter cable run to the tower. This will be another ongoing story.

During the past month I have had the pleasure of joining several of you for breakfast at *Richard's* on Tuesday mornings. It's a good opportunity to meet fellow area hams who can't go to our meetings.

-73 - Dave, WA1MKE

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vide two new linear mode U/V transponders for SSB and CW use only. Only one transponder will be active at any given time. The uplink passband is 435.225-435.275 MHz (LSB), and the downlink is 145.875-145.925 MHz (USB). An unmodulated carrier has been reported on 145.936 MHz, and a CW telemetry beacon on 145.860 MHz.

Dutch graduate student William Leijenaar, PE1RAH, who designed one of HAMSAT's transponders, saw the PSLV-C6 vehicle carry the satellite skyward from SDSC SHAR. "It was very interesting to see how my radio finally went into space," he said afterward. "It is the best ham radio experience in my life."

There's more information on the AM-SAT-India Web site:

<<http://www.amsatindia.com/hamsat.htm>>.

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and Wyoming--use the band for state police operations. It's the primary public safety radio band in nine states.

The resolution further notes that the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials Inc (APCO), and the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), urged the FCC to withhold final action in the BPL proceeding for at least a year, pending a "conclusive determination" of BPL's potential to interfere with public safety and other licensed radio systems operating below 80 MHz. It also cites comments filed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, which uses a statewide radio system with more than 1400 Low-Band VHF users. The Missouri State Highway Patrol commented that the overall effect of BPL implementation would be "a potentially significant increase in interference to the mission of critical public safety communications," the resolution says.

The resolution recounts that the FCC has struggled for years to resolve widespread harmful interference to the radiocommunications of first responders on 800 MHz and "should not have proceeded with introduction of a technology which appears to have substantial potential to cause destructive interference to police, fire, emergency medical services, and other public safety radio systems" without first conducting a comprehensive evaluation.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has urged ARRL

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It's that time again . . .

The weather net was called into action this past Wednesday, May 11. Storms passed through Delaware county depositing rain and in some instances hail. The storms possessed spectacular lightning. On air reports suggested that 1.5 inch hail was observed near Albany.

If you haven't got your equipment ready for storm season, you may be running out of time. More storms are expected this weekend.

- editor

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members to contact their US representatives to support the resolution. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/filings/hres230/HRes230-SampleLtr.doc>>. Members are encouraged to express their support in their own words. If you're not sure who represents your congressional district, visit the United States House of Representatives Web site <<http://www.house.gov/>>.

To expedite delivery, send all correspondence bound for Members of Congress--preferably as an attachment--to <hres230@arrl.org> or fax it to 703-684-7594. The ARRL will bundle correspondence addressed to each Member of Congress for hand delivery.

A copy of HRes 230 is available on the ARRL Web site<<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/filings/hres230/HRes230.pdf>>. - *The ARRL Letter*

For Sale/Wanted:

MFJ Roller Tuner \$90, Rigblaster for icom 706 with ps and cables \$30, Rohn Tower 24 ft that is up + an 8 ft section. Take it down and you can have it! Larry, WA9OAO , 747-5130

I have a collection of 5 ft to 25 ft sections of Andrew FSJ1 (1/4 in) heliax. No expensive connectors needed since a PL259 + RG59 sleeve works. \$0.50/ ft. Dave, WA1MKE, 358-3280

This space is available to all members!

The price is right for your ad!

Do You have something for sale?

Your ad could be
here!

Please send your ad to me at

ddoiron@bsu.edu
By June 3, 2005

The date is early as I will be on the road during the month of June. -editor