



TARC Bulletin



W5LM Repeaters:

146.820- MHz (PL 123.0) — 444.700 MHz (PL 123.0)

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OFFICERS

President: Oscar Houser, KD5DGJ, 780-9105, houser@vvm.com

Vice President: Mike LeFan, WA5EQQ, 773-3590, wa5eqq@arrl.net

Secretary: Steve Bosshard, NU5D, 770-0111, bosshard@vvm.com

Treasurer: John Biles, AD5PB, 778-1756, jbiles@vvm.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Kay Schlieper KB5DC, 773-0608, kb5dc@vvm.com

Charlie Schlieper N5TD, 773-0608, n5td@vvm.com

Richard Prewitt, KD5OGF, 742-1368, rprewitt@swmail.sw.org

Garrett Hill, N5MPE, 780-1537, ghill@vvm.com

COMMITTEES

Programs:

W5LM Trustee: Ron Thompson W5WRE, 699-7174, w5wre@vvm.com

Technical Director: Charlie Schlieper N5TD, 773-0608, n5td@vvm.com

VE Tests: —

Education: Charlie Schlieper N5TD, 773-0608, n5td@vvm.com

Membership: John Biles, AD5PB, 778-1756, jbiles@vvm.com

RACES: Charlie Schlieper N5TD, District Radio Officer, 773-0608, n5td@vvm.com

Bulletin Editor &

Webmaster: Mike LeFan WA5EQQ, 773-3590, wa5eqq@arrl.net

Ham Expo Is Here!

- Ham Expo is Saturday, October 2, 7:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
- Bell County Expo Center, Belton, Texas
- We need YOU
- Help make this the best yet!

ARRL Director Day Due at TARC Oct. 7

Coy Day, N5OK, Director of the West Gulf Division of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), will be speaking at the Temple Amateur Radio Club meeting on Thursday, October 7.



Coy Day, N5OK

We have heard him several times before, and Coy always has the latest from Newington, from Washington, and from other Amateur Radio news locales. The meeting will be at the Western Hills Church of Christ, 210 N. General Bruce Dr., at 7:00 p.m.

At Our Next Meeting

Our club meeting on Oct. 7 will focus on the latest legislative and regulatory developments in the Amateur Radio world. Coy Day, N5OK, of Union, Okla., will be our speaker. He is our ARRL West Gulf Division director. We'll have a door prize and lots of fun. Meeting time is 7:00 p.m. at the Western Hills Church of Christ in Temple. Come enjoy the refreshments and fellowship.

In this issue

Ham Expo Is Oct. 2 — Coy Day to be Here — At Our Next Meeting	1
Mode-J Desense Problems — Key Clicks	2
TARC Mail-In Ballot — Holiday Party Plans — BPL Developments	3
Meeting Info	4

Two Ways to Improve Mode-J Desense

by
Charlie Schlieper, N5TD

Mode-J (FM) Satellites, such as **AO-51 (Echo)**, have become increasingly popular in LEO sats. **Mode-J** means that you use **2-meters to transmit** up to the satellite, and **70-cm to receive** from the downlink. One of the prob-

lems in using **Mode-J** is the **third harmonic** of the 2-meter transmitter can cause desense to the 70-cm receiver. Separating the antennas might help some, but this idea is not very

practical. The use of **FILTERS** is a much better method of getting around this problem.

Figures 1 and 2 are two tried and tested methods that will help eliminate, or will greatly reduce Mode-J Desense.

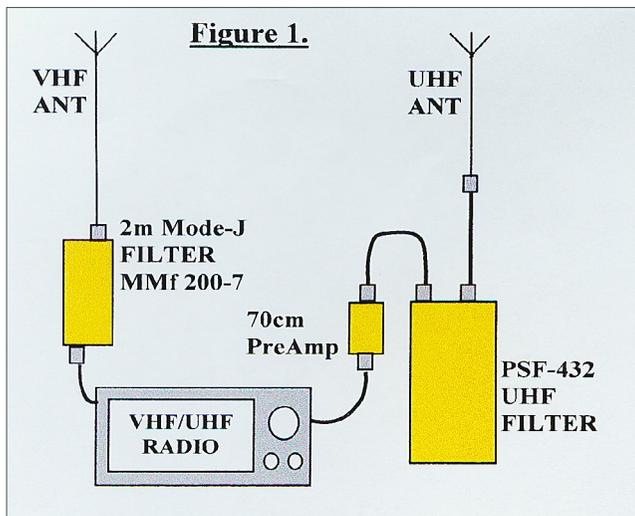
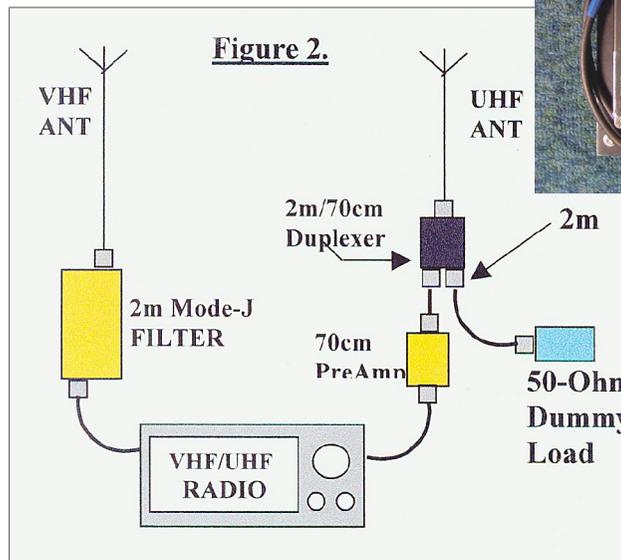


Figure 3 shows the MMf 200-7 and PSF-432 closeup.

Some rf engineers might tell you “NEVER put a FILTER in front of a PRE-AMP,” but in the real world some preamps are a lot happier if you don’t feed them trash! The **MMf 200-7** is a VHF bandpass filter that virtually eliminates harmonics outside the 2-meter band. The **PSF-432** is a bandpass Interdigital filter (shown on the

UHF side) and mates up to produce the

best combination for Mode-J desense reduction.



The 70cm/2m **duplexer** is a handy “compromise,” which can be used alone if either of the filters in figure 1 are unavailable.

The 70cm/2m **duplexer** is a handy “compromise,” which can be used alone if either of the filters in figure 1 are unavailable.

KEY CLICKS FROM THE ARMADILLO

...**THANKS** to our 2004 Nominating Committee for their slate of candidates. The committee consisted of **Steve Bosshard, NU5D**; **Jan Gregg, W5GNK**; and **Vern Starnes, W5WDW**.

...**It’s time for Ham Expo.** REALLY time! Your presence and help are needed on Oct. 2. Plan to be there!

...**Be sure to attend** the club meeting on Oct. 7 to hear Coy Day, N5OK, director of the West Gulf Division of the ARRL.

...**Remember the Net** — Mondays at 7:00 p.m. on 146.820- MHz (PL 123.0). Some of you have not been on the net in quite a while—and we miss your smiling face. So get onboard and check in with us. Join the fun!

...**See you** at the club meeting on Oct. 7.

TARC Mail-In Ballot for 2004

For President:

- Darwin Geiselbrecht K5DOA
- _____ [write-in]

For Vice President:

- Eddie Huntsman KD5UBP
- _____ [write-in]

For Secretary:

- Tom Olsen KC5KXS
- _____ [write-in]

For Treasurer:

- Jerry Heitman KA5AIE
- _____ [write-in]

For Board of Directors:

- John Dvorcek KE5C
- _____ [write-in]

BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS: If you will be unable to attend the TARC meeting on Nov. 4 to vote in club elections, then you can complete this mail ballot and return it for receipt **BY OCT. 28, 2004**. Your mailing label on the reverse verifies club membership. Mail to: TARC, Ballot 2004, PO Box 616, Temple, TX 76513. Thank you.

Christmas Party Is Dec. 2

Jim Shephard W5RYV has finalized arrangements for TARC's annual Christmas Dinner and Awards Presentation. It will be Thursday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bluebonnet Dining Room at the Meridian.

The meal will be Grilled Tenderloin, Twice-baked potato, Seasoned green beans, Tossed salad, Coffee and Tea, Rolls, and either Pecan pie or Cheese cake.

Musical entertainment will be provided by keyboardist LaRon Tub.

Watch for more details next month.

FCC Poised to Act on BPL Report and Order In Mid-October

The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) will present a draft broadband over power line (BPL) Report and Order to the full Commission on Oct. 14, the ARRL has learned. More than 6100 comments have been filed on the topic since the FCC released its initial Notice of Inquiry in the proceeding, ET Docket 03-104, in 2003 and a subsequent Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket 04-37, in February.... The ARRL so far...has taken its concerns regarding Amateur Radio and BPL to three of the Commission's five members. In a meeting last week with FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein, an ARRL delegation again asserted that the FCC is pushing the proceeding to a predetermined conclusion with little regard for technical issues.

"Because the FCC has been unwilling to release...the results of its own tests and observations of BPL systems, the ARRL has no confidence that the draft Report and Order will be based on sound engineering and believes the rush to adoption is unwarranted and premature," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said in a follow-up letter to Adelstein. The letter reiterated the League's key points that,

(Continued on page 4)

TARC Bulletin

Temple Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 616
Temple, TX 76503

Temple Amateur Radio Club meets the first Thursday of each month from 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Church of Christ in Western Hills, 210 N. General Bruce Dr., in Temple—across I-35 from La Quinta Motel. Refreshments are served, and guests are invited and welcome!

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TARC Bulletin – October 2004 – page 4

(Continued from page 3)

it said, "represent the minimum protection" that should be incorporated into the BPL Report and Order prior to Commission adoption.

"Without adequate safeguards, deployment of BPL systems will result in the pollution and degradation of the...high-frequency radio spectrum," Sumner said.

The League argued that the R&O include a reduction in the radiated emission limit. The ARRL wants the limit set 30 dB below current Part 15 requirements, which...were established with narrowband point-source radiators in mind....

The ARRL pointed out that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has concluded that at the current Part 15 limit, interference is "likely" to receivers in land vehicles 75 meters from BPL-connected power lines and to fixed stations 460 meters from such power lines.

"Given the number of amateur stations and the fact that they almost invariably are located near power lines, the areas of potential interference at the existing Part 15 limit are clearly too large to permit case-by-case resolution of interference issues," Sumner said. "...Widespread BPL deployment at the existing Part 15 radiated emission limit will result in an unmanageable incidence of interference."

The only way to reduce these areas of potential interference is to reduce the radiated emission limit, the ARRL maintained....

The ARRL contingent...decried the FCC's lack of response to is-

sues...raised two months ago regarding a North Carolina...interference complaint. The ARRL representatives carried copies of correspondence questioning a July OET report that essentially gave the Progress Energy Corp BPL field trial a clean bill of health despite continued interference on amateur frequencies.

The League delegation suggested to Adelstein that the OET has swept the North Carolina BPL interference case under the rug and has attempted to discount interference issues in general while overstating the FCC's ability to address them.

Other points the ARRL has stressed in its meetings with Commission members include:

- * consider including the NTIA's recommendations to standardize measurement procedures and to require that Access BPL systems be certificated, not merely verified.

- * requiring independent confirmation of rules compliance before a BPL system is placed in operation.

- * the need for advance public notification of BPL system locations and characteristics, something not included in the NPRM.

- * performance standards for interference mitigation that would require that interference be terminated immediately upon notification to the operator; and meaningful penalties for non-compliance, including fines.

- * require BPL marketers to "give clear notice to potential customers that licensed radio services have priority and that the delivery of broadband service via BPL cannot be guaranteed."