



TARC Bulletin



W5LM Repeaters:

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

www.tarc.org

August 2007

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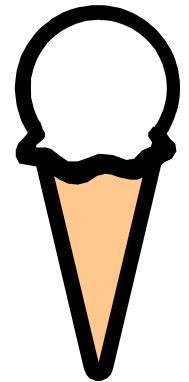
Eat Ice Cream, Hear N5OK on Aug. 2

Coy Day, N5OK, West Gulf Division Director of ARRL, has graciously offered to visit TARC on Aug. 2 to speak for us and to enjoy our Annual Ice Cream Social. We look forward to sharing some ice cream and eyeball QSOs with him.

The TARC Board of Directors invited Coy to a pre-meeting Mexican meal at Tres Magueyees Restaurant.

The Ice Cream Social will be at the usual meeting place, the Church of Christ in Western Hills, at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, Aug. 2. That's at 210 N. General Bruce Dr. in Temple (to the west across the Interstate from Starbucks).

Coy will be speaking at Austin *Summerfest* this weekend, so take advantage of this opportunity for an early preview of his remarks concerning the ARRL and Amateur Radio. Our hobby faces many important issues and powerful forces these days, and Coy can authoritatively fill us in on the latest developments. Be sure to attend this important—and tasty—TARC meeting.



Austin Summerfest is Aug. 3 & 4

Austin *Summerfest* celebrates its 24th year on August 3 and 4. It is being held at a new location: The Wyndham Garden Hotel, 3401 South Interstate 35. The hotel is at the northeast corner of I-35 and Woodward Street.

All the activities that hams have come to know and love will be featured: swapping both indoors and outdoors, technical and administrative sessions, and volunteer license exams. The keynote speaker is Coy Day N5OK, ARRL West Gulf Division Director. He will welcome *Summerfest's* special guest from ARRL Headquarters, Joel Hallas W1ZR, Technical Director of QST.



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At Our Next Meeting

Annual Ice Cream Social—PLUS—hear remarks by **Coy Day, N5OK**, West Gulf Division Director of the American Radio Relay League.

That is Thursday, Aug. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Church of Christ in Western Hills, 210 N. General Bruce Dr. in Temple. Join us. Refreshments served and guests *welcome*.

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Worldwide Scouting Celebrates 100 Years

World Scout Jamboree On the Air from England: Worldwide Scouting celebrates 100 years of Scouting with the 21st World Jamboree in England July 27-August 7. Amateur Radio will be a significant part of the festivities, with participation in several events during the Jamboree.

GB100J will operate around the clock for the duration of the Jamboree. There are plans for a contact with the International Space Station, including an EchoLink relay of the contact. The Scouting Sunrise Net marks the 100th anniversary with ceremonies around the

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New Ham Radio Classes

New Ham Radio Classes, sponsored by TARC, will run from Aug. 20 to Sept. 20, 2007, a period of five weeks. Classes will meet on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall at the Western Hills Church of Christ, 210 N. General Bruce, in Temple.

The class tuition is free of charge; however, students are expected to purchase their study guides, which will be provided by the club. The list prices of the ARRL books are approximately as follows: Technician, \$24.95; General, \$19.95; and Extra, \$24.95. The club gets a discount of a few dollars below these prices and passes the savings on to all students by providing the books at our cost.

All classes of license will be taught, if the enrollment dictates. The Extra Class will only be held once a week, for a total of five nights, either Mondays or Thursdays—as decided by the majority of that class.

General and Technician classes will meet twice a week, unless otherwise changed. The General Class may begin at 6:30 instead of 7:00 p.m. each evening, at the discretion of the instructor.

You need to register for these classes. Contacts are: Tom Olsen, AE5AP, TARC President, < tomolsen@sbcglobal.net >; Darwin Geiselbrecht, K5DOA, Extra Class Instructor, < k5doa@vvm.com >; Roy Wells, N5HQR, General Class Instructor, < n5hqr@vvm.com >; Charlie Schlieper, N5TD, Technician Class Instructor, < n5td@vvm.com >.

Field Day Wrap-up

Field Day '07 was a memorable one, featuring great new antennas, a terrific short-order café, a tasty bar-b-que, and friendly camaraderie. "Thanks again to everyone who helped," said FD Chairman John Dvoracek, KE5C. "I won't name anyone for fear of overlooking someone."

Here's our FD summary:

Call Used: W5LM

GOTA Station Call: W5T

ARRL/RAC Section: NTX Class: 2A

Participants: 35

Club/Group Name: Temple Amateur Radio Club

Power Source(s): Generator

Power Multiplier: 2X

Bonus Points:

100% Emergency power 200

Media Publicity 100

Set-up in Public Place 100

Information Booth 100

NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC 100

W1AW Field Day Message 100

Site Visit by invited served agency official 100

Youth participation 80

Youth operators=4

Youth participants=4

GOTA Bonus 100

Submitted via the Web 50

Non traditional mode: Pactor 1 100

Non traditional mode: SSTV 100

Non traditional mode: MT-63 100

Total Bonus Points 1,330

Score Summary:

CW, Digital, Phone = Total

Total QSOs 872 0 572

Total Points 1744, 0, 572 = 2316

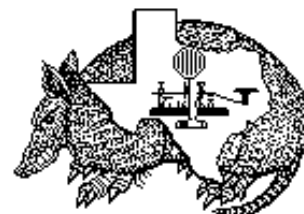
Claimed Score = 4,632

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Programs will feature presentations on DX and contesting, Weather and emergency operations, Amsat, microwave, QST technical reviews, QRP, the Software Defined Radio, and crafts events.

Prizes include a full complement of Icom HF, VHF, and UHF transceivers.

Up-to-the-minute information on events, directions, and hotel accommodations can be had at <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>.



KEY CLICKS FROM THE ARMADILLO

...Ron Thompson W5WRE just won the IARU HF World Championship Phone Only Low Power for the North Texas Section Zone 7. This is the second year in the row for Ron—Great accomplishment!

...Ed W5LQ and Martha NU5R Underwood are moving back to the Carolinas and are wanting to sell their ranch home near Florence. As the property favors Amateur Radio, he would prefer selling to a Ham.

...The Dept. of Homeland Security has proclaimed September "National Preparedness Month." Amateur Radio Awareness Day is Saturday, Sept. 17. Check out the details at: http://www.arrl.org/pio/press_releases/2005/0809.html

...Gainesville Hamfest 2007 is Aug. 25 at Gainesville Civic Center, 311 S. Weaver St., Gainesville, TX. Talk-In: 147.34 & 442.775 (both PL 100). For more information contact James K. Floyd, N5ZPU, jfloyd@swbell.net

...Highland Lakes ARC Hamfest is Aug. 8 at Kingsland Community Center, 3451 Rose Hill Dr., Kingsland, TX. Talk-In: 146.66 (PL 88.5). For more information check: <http://www.hlarc.org>

...Most weekdays and Saturdays, a handful of Temple area hams meet for coffee at the McDonalds' at IH35 and Adams Avenue around 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Everyone is invited and welcome to join in. Come on by.

...Remember the TARC Net — Mondays at 7:00 p.m. on 146.820- MHz (PL 123.0). Your smiling face is needed on our Monday Night Net. Get the net habit. Try it—you'll like it!

...See you at the club meeting on Aug. 2, 2007.

FCC Responds to ARRL's BPL Brief

On Monday, July 2, the FCC filed its reply brief with the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The FCC attempted to rebut the ARRL's challenge to the FCC's Broadband over Power Line (BPL) rules enacted in late 2004 and affirmed by the agency in 2006. According to ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, "The FCC's brief does not accurately describe ARRL's arguments concerning harmful interference."

Given what is in essence a 100 percent probability of interference from BPL systems to fixed and mobile HF facilities at significant distances from power lines, Imlay said Section 301 of the Communications Act does not allow unlicensed BPL systems to operate in the HF bands. "Basically, Section 301 says you can not operate a radio frequency emitting device without a license. The legislative purpose of Section 301 is clearly to avoid interference. FCC's Part 15 rules have assumed that certain very low power devices and systems can operate without predictable interference, thus allowing them to operate without a license, notwithstanding Section 301. But with BPL, the FCC has ignored conclusive record evidence which shows that there will be, and in fact our experience conclusively demonstrates, that BPL causes severe interference to licensed services," Imlay said.

The FCC claims that it has the authority to permit unlicensed BPL under Section 302 of the Act; this section allows the FCC to regulate the interference potential of RF devices. What Section 302 does not do, Imlay said, is to create a loophole in, or modify, or invalidate Section 301.

"It is the ARRL's position," Imlay said, "that the FCC can regulate and authorize BPL with certain safeguards, consistent with the terms of Section 301; however, the FCC simply cannot honestly maintain the position that BPL has an inherently low interference potential. It has a high interference potential, and

the rules they have enacted to date are woefully inadequate and insufficient to address it." The ARRL has long maintained that BPL, when not adequately "notched," causes harmful interference to Amateur Radio operations. In its brief, the FCC claims BPL does not cause significant interference and the Courts must defer to the FCC's expertise to decide this issue.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said, "The FCC misrepresents the ARRL's position as being that the FCC has no authority to allow unlicensed devices that pose any risk whatsoever of causing interference to licensed services. That's not our position at all. Our position is that the FCC possessed clear evidence, at the time it made its BPL decisions, that the limits it was adopting would allow the deployment of BPL systems with a near-100 percent probability of causing harmful interference to radio receivers hundreds of feet from the power lines. Yet, despite this evidence it characterized the likelihood of harmful interference as 'low.'"

The brief goes on to say that, in the FCC's view, mobile stations and fixed stations are protected against harmful interference from BPL. But with respect to mobile stations complaining of interference, the FCC requires only that BPL operators reduce the radiated emission levels to 20 dB below the Part 15 maximum levels for radiated emissions. This, in the HF bands, still permits BPL noise at levels that preclude communications entirely. It offers mobile stations no protection whatsoever, Imlay stated.

Sumner explained, "The FCC claims that it continues to protect mobile stations from harmful interference, but it does so simply by defining whatever interference a mobile station might encounter from a notched BPL system as not harmful! None of the steps to limit the interference potential of BPL systems that the FCC took in this rulemaking proceeding reduce

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world at 8 a.m. local time. This net will start at 1900 UTC July 31 and continue to 1900 UTC August 1, and will include GB100S and GB100BI. The BI station will be located on Brownsea Island, where Lord Baden Powell opened the very first Scout encampment at 8 a.m. August 1, 1907. The idea for Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) was formed at a World Jamboree in 1957. GB100J will celebrate JOTA's 50th birthday on August 4 with special on-the-air activities. This year's JOTA, always the third full weekend in October, will be a 50 hour around-the-world Scout happening. QST Assistant Technical Editor and active Scoutmaster Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, said, "Make plans now to spend some time with a local Scout Troop, Cub Pack or Venture Crew during the time of the Jamboree. Contact a local Scout camp and set up a station to have local Scouts participate in some of the World Jamboree festivities via Amateur Radio. Talk

with Scouts at the Jamboree and other locations around the world. You and the Scouts will have so much fun you will want to do this again and again. For more information and updates during the Jamboree, see the GB100J Web page at <http://gb100j.radio-scouting.org.uk/>.

—via *The ARRL Letter*, July 20, 2007



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!

First Class Mail

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FCC Responds to ARRL's BPL Brief

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the likelihood of interference to the amateur service, and to this day the FCC has declined to enforce its rules even when protracted violations and interference have been documented."

The FCC's brief also attempted to justify its presumption that a BPL radiated interfering signal decays at a rate of 40 dB per decade of distance. "A 'decade of distance' is a factor of 10," Imlay explained. "For example, if a victim receiver moves from 3-30 feet from the power lines (10 times farther away), that is one decade of distance. For each decade of distance, the FCC believes that there is a 40 dB signal decay. In the HF bands, however, the evidence in the record shows that the signal decay is closer to 20 dB than 40 dB per decade of distance from the power lines. The FCC's brief claimed that there was conflicting evidence on the subject, but ARRL's view is that the FCC merely avoided consideration of the overwhelming evidence favoring the more conservative decay factor."

Imlay said the ARRL has asked the Court to order the FCC to "rethink the rules governing BPL and for the first time to take

into account the evidence on the record concerning harmful interference to Amateur Radio." ARRL's reply brief is due for filing with the Court July 28, 2007. There is no date set yet for oral argument before the three-judge panel in Washington, DC.

—*The ARRL Letter, July 20, 2007*

