

# THE TARA NEWS

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

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Troy Amateur Radio Association Celebrates  
1991 12TH ANNIVERSARY April 22, 2003 2003

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## FCC ENACTS INTERNET MORSE CODE REQUIREMENT

The FCC, under pressure to clean up the Internet, especially after the Communications Decency Act provisions regarding Internet content regulation were stricken as violating the U.S. Constitution, has decided instead to require a Morse code requirement for Internet users.

Citing the success of the Amateur Radio Service and the general belief that its requirement for operators to pass a Morse code proficiency exam and other technical requirements, has kept the A.R.S. "clean", the FCC will enact a 5 word-per-minute requirement for all Internet users. They are leaving open the issue of whether there should be a "codeless" class of Internet user and are soliciting comments on this proposal. Persons wishing to develop a web site having only links to other web sites having links to other web sites, and so forth, must pass a 13 word-per-minute test and demonstrate proficiency in HTML, the Internet authoring language.

Persons wish to develop web sites that have actual content, as compared to just links to other web sites, must pass a 20 word-per-minute Morse code proficiency test, demonstrate proficiency in HTML and the Java programming language, and show that they have the mastery of at least one human language, such as English.

The FCC, which lacks budgetary authority to implement the testing program, has stated that it intends to create Volunteer Examiner programs for Internet applicants.

**Editor's Note:** Note for the humor impaired: this is satire.

Please do not read this if you are not properly trained and certified in satire. This article was compliments of Jim Thompson - W3LAP



More than a Club



We're a Family



# RESCUE RADIO: HAM RADIO ASSISTANCE REQUESTED IN MASSACHUSETTS PLANE CRASH

Ham radio was called out on March 3, 2003 to help locate a missing aircraft. Amateur Radio Newslines' Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the rest of the story:

John Spencer, WA1NTI, was listening to the NOBARC 146.91 MHz repeater in the Pittsfield, Massachusetts area early on Monday morning March 3rd. That's when John Lindley, WA1ZHM put out a call looking for hams who could assist in locating a downed aircraft.

According to information provided by Arthur Rowe, N1ORC, Lindley said, it was the Massachusetts State Police who requested radio amateurs assist in the search.

In fact it was about 4 a.m. when a Lieutenant from the State Police Task Force came knocking on WA1ZHM's door. At the time the location of the aircraft was unknown and there was a wide search area to cover. The police told Lindley that the agency needed people with radio knowledge and equipment who could help with triangulating the location.

Spencer says that the operators who could assist and respond were told to report to the Sheffield Mass. P. D. There they were briefed and shown an area of Beartown State Forest where the crash site was believed to be. The hams were tasked with listening for the airplanes 121.5 MHz EPIRB Emergency Locator transmitter and trying to T-hunt its exact location.

Gary Kleinerman, K1SXA, was put in charge of the group of seven hams. The downed aircraft was located by a Search and Rescue helicopter about 3 miles in from where Kleinerman and Spencer had been assigned to search. The chopper pilot also saw that there was at least one survivor.

Due to terrain, another heavy-duty rescue helicopter was called in from the New York State Police to help rescue two boys who survived the crash. Unfortunately rescuers found the boys parents and two of their siblings were dead at the scene.

And even though the ham radio operators were not the first to find the downed aircraft, those involved in organizing the search and rescue effort thought enough of the skill of radio amateurs to have them take part. That's why they knocked on WA1ZHM's door in the middle of the night.

The three hour rescue involved police, fire and E-M-S from Massachusetts and New York. Volunteer manpower for the search came from Massachusetts and Connecticut. (N1ORC)

**Editor Note:** This should be a wake up call to Amateur Radio operators, that our skills are being recognized more and more by Law Enforcement and Emergency Services since 9-11. If we are prepared, we will be able to provide **unique** services to emergency services.

## Amateur high-speed Internet link used during shuttle debris recovery

**Newington, Conn. From the ARRL News**

Amateurs involved in the Texas search for debris from the shuttle Columbia used a 802.11b high-speed Internet link, using equipment provided by Michael Willett, KD5MFM. Others involved in the system installation were Robert Judy, KD5FEE; James McLaughlin, KD5POY; and Tim Lewallen, KD5ING. The link utilized a mix of directional antennas to provide a robust connection through the intense radio traffic in the area. The 2.4-GHz radio cards were set to produce 100 mW of power and utilize direct sequence spread spectrum encoding. A 24-inch parabolic dish was installed on one end of the link. On the other end, an 11-element shrouded Cushcraft antenna was mounted on a temporary mast. Net control utilized the link to look up call signs and for quick e-mail communication, weather-radar monitoring and weather tracking. "This application and installation of the 802.11b link was one of many examples demonstrating the extensive capabilities of volunteer ham operators, government authorities and local businesses teaming together to help during a crisis event," said Doug Kilgore, KD5OUG. Pictures of the link as well as other operations are available on the Richardson Wireless Klub, K5RWK, Website <http://www.k5rwk.org/Shuttle/index.html>



# Let's Get Ready for the "Spring Rumble"

Please get ready for TARA's 9th - PSK Rumble - "The Spring Wake-Up" coming up on April 19, 2003, starting at 00:00z until 24:00z. This contest is proudly sponsored by the Troy Amateur Radio Association of Troy, NY -- the same club that first introduced PSK contesting to the "World" some years ago. That's right...TARA was the very first organization to bring you PSK contesting and it just keeps getting bigger and better!

Since that first TARA Rumble there have been a number of other clubs/organizations that have introduced their spin on the TARA Rumble and we're quite flattered! But if you want to try the "Real Rumble" come join us in April, you'll be glad you did!

For a complete copy of the "Official Rules" for this Rumble, or the one held in October - "The Fall Classic" you want to visit the Home Page for Ernie Mills, WM2U - "Digital World" at <http://www.qsl.net/wm2u/> Also, you'll find a complete run down on scores from prior TARA Rumbles.

Another, first for TARA was the introduction of our "O.S.S.S." On-line Score Submission System that Ernie Mills, WM2U first introduced a couple year's ago. You will find this the quickest & easiest way to submit your Rumble score. No longer do you have to print your logs and mail them out via snail mail, simply go on-line at <http://www.qsl.net/wm2u/> and in a matter of minutes your score will be submitted! No wonder these other clubs and organizations have copied this system....it's fantastic!! Come check it out and see what you think. I think you'll quickly see why TARA is a leader in Digital Communications and contesting in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

If you need ANY additional help feel free to contact the creator of TARA Rumble, Ernie Mills, WM2U, at [emills@nycap.rr.com](mailto:emills@nycap.rr.com) or Bill Eddy, NY2U at [ny2u@n2ty.org](mailto:ny2u@n2ty.org)

Thank You!

**Bill Eddy, NY2U**

President of Troy ARA



## Computer Tips



### Question: What's the difference between Save and Save As?

When you use the **Save** command, you save your work under its current file name. If you've never saved whatever it is you're working on before, then you'll get an opportunity to name it. When you use **Save As**, you get a chance to save what you're working on as a new file. Here's an example. Let's say you're working on a word processing document. It's a new document and you decide to save it. A box comes up that lets you give it a name. Now, let's say you add something to it. If you use the **Save** command again, it simply saves it with no questions asked under the existing file name. OK, now let's say you make a modification to the file, but you want to keep the original version as well. This is where you use **Save As**. When you use the **Save As** command, it allows you to save your current file as a new file with a new name. Now when you go to open your files, you'll find you have both the original version and the new, **Saved As** version.



# Repeater Battle Update

TAKEN from The ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 13 March 28, 2003  
In other enforcement news, the FCC has notified the Cadet Amateur Radio Seminar at the US Military Academy at West Point that its repeater appears to interfere with a coordinated repeater, NA1RA, in New Milford, Connecticut. The Connecticut Spectrum Management Association (CSMA) coordinated the NA1RA repeater, operated by the Northville Amateur Radio Association, on January 31, 2001. The FCC says the request was cross-coordinated--and "no objection received"--with the Upper New York Repeater Council (UNYREPCO), the coordinating entity for W2KGY.

**Hollingsworth wrote March 10 that UNYREPCO apparently did not coordinate with CSMA before issuing coordination to W2KGY, although the coordination request went to seven other adjacent repeater coordinating bodies. In light of the "failure or refusal" to inform CSMA of W2KGY's request, he said, "it is apparent that the Northville repeater, NA1RA, is the coordinated repeater" for 146.73, the channel both repeaters share**

Hollingsworth said, that according to the FCC rules, the licensee of an uncoordinated repeater has a primary responsibility to resolve the interference. He also asked the W2KGY owners to furnish any proof of coordination prior to 2001. If the FCC determines that both repeaters are coordinated, W2KGY's owners still would have to detail steps taken to minimize or eliminate interference to NA1RA, Hollingsworth explained.

Selected FCC correspondence related to Amateur Radio enforcement and provided by the FCC is posted on the ARRL Web site at:

[http://www.arrl.org/news/enforcement\\_logs/](http://www.arrl.org/news/enforcement_logs/)



***I'll Take it from here***



## ***TARA Members travel to Peru !!!***

Dan (W2AU) and I spent another contest weekend in Peru (Peru, Mass. that is), at the QTH of David Robbins K1TTT. This was the ARRL International DX SSB contest.

There were a total of 9 operators (5 full-time and 4 part timers) keeping the 6 stations operating during the 48 hour contest.

Although band conditions were marginal we still managed 3546 Q's with a total of 5.5 million points. Great bunch of guys and lots of fun. Dave has a web page at [www.K1TTT.net](http://www.K1TTT.net) which contains pictures and descriptions of his station along with past contest results.

**73! Steve W2GB**



# TARA Brew Crew

## Saturday, April 12 1:00 p.m.



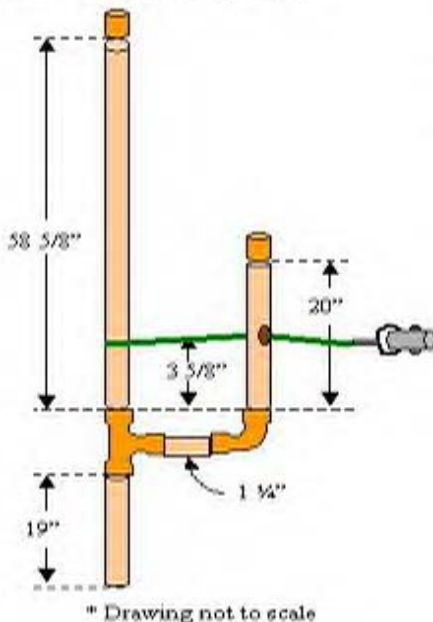
The TARA Brew Crew meets on the Second Saturday of each month in the Science Lab at Heatly School in beautiful uptown Green Island located at 172 Hudson Avenue. Bring a project to work on and please bring your own tools, test equipment and necessary parts, if possible. Tune into the Brew Crew Net every Tuesday at 7:00pm on the 145.17 Mhz TARA repeater. Your hosts are Gary - KC2HWE and Bill - KC2JDW. If you have any questions for them about what to bring or what is the project for the month they can be easily contacted at

[KC2JDW@n2ty.org](mailto:KC2JDW@n2ty.org) and [KC2HWE@n2ty.org](mailto:KC2HWE@n2ty.org).

The Brew Crew Breakfast gang meets at Frank's Diner located at 25 Lower Avenue between 11 & 11:30p.m.

## 2M 1/2 in. Copper J-Pole

1/2 Inch Copper Pipe Jpole



### ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cut a piece of 1/2" copper pipe to the following lengths: 58 5/8" radiating element, 20" matching stub, 19" anchor pipe, and 1 1/4" connector.
2. Solder 1/2" caps onto the 58 5/8" and 20" pieces as shown.
3. Solder the T-joint, 19" lower pipe, 1 1/4" pipe, and elbow joint to the 58 5/8" element as shown.
4. On the 20" capped pipe drill a 1/8" hole at a point that is 3 5/8" from the uncapped end. Drill a 1/8" hole directly opposite the 1/8" hole. These holes will be used later for mounting the male BNC connector and feeding the plenum-rated jumper wire through the 20" stub.
5. Carefully solder the 20" capped stub onto the elbow so that the drilled holes line up with the 58 5/8" radiating element, and so that the radiating element and the 20" stub are aligned in parallel with each other.
6. Strip off the insulation and outer shield from both ends of a 4 to 5" piece of plenum-rated cable (any type will do). Solder the center conductor of one end onto the center pin of the male BNC connector as shown.
7. Feed the BNC & cable assembly through the drilled holes and solder the BNC nut securely into the 1/8" hole.
8. Trim the length of the free end of the jumper wire and solder its center conductor to the radiating element. Check the SWR and move the jumper up or down until a good match is found. Then solder the jumper securely in place on the radiating element.

DISTRICT 24 DOUGLAS & ELBERT COUNTIES, COLORADO



**2 METER J-POLE ANTENNA --  
1/2 inch Copper Pipe**

Plans By: KB0VJY & K0KHZ

Date: 15 October, 1999

# Shortwave Listening Today

Well, the war has just started. I've spent the evening combing the short wave bands to see what can be picked up with a small portable with the built in telescopic antenna (Radio Shack DX-402). Here's what the last 5 hours produced. This is not intended to be a detailed frequency/schedule guide--check with Monitoring Times or Pop Com for more info. It is intended to show how easy it is to pick up 25 countries in one day with a simple receiver and built in antenna. As the war heats up, these stations can provide a different slant on the news, or even details that NBC, CBS, ABC, FOX & CNN "overlooked".

## **ENJOY!!!! ALL FREQUENCIES IN MEGAHERTZ**

**RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL (RCI) --- 5.960, 6.040, 9.590**

**BBC-LONDON --- 5.975, 9.825**

**RADIO HAVANA CUBA --- 6.000, 9.820**

**USA-VOICE OF AMERICA --- 5.995 (QRM FROM CUBA), 6.130, 9.775**

**SPAIN --- 6.055**

**JAPAN --- 6.145 (VERY STRONG, RELAY FROM RCI???)**

**NETHERLANDS --- 6.165, 9.845**

**KUWAIT --- 11.990 (AFTERNOONS, VERY WEAK AS IT IS BEAMED TO ASIA. BUT IT IS READABLE)**

**RADIO BULGARIA --- 7.400, 9.400**

**RFPI--RADIO FOR PEACE INTERNATIONAL, COSTA RICA --- 7.445 (WEAK)**

**ITALY--RAI, ROME --- 9.675 (FAIR)**

**RADIO PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC --- 6.200**

**CHINA RADIO INTERNATIONAL --- 9.580, 9.790 (DIFFICULT)**

**VOICE OF VIETNAM --- 6.175 (STRONG!! CUBA RELAY??)**

**GERMANY--DEUTSCHE WELLE --- 6.020, 6.040, 6.145, 9.640, 9.700**

**RADIO SLOVAKIA INTERNATIONAL --- 5.930 (QRM FROM WWCR), 7.230 (40 METER HAM QRM), 9.440**

**IRELAND, RTE RADIO --- 6.155**

**VOICE OF RUSSIA --- 6.155 (RIGHT AFTER IRELAND WENT OFF), 7.180, 9.765**

**TAIWAN, RADIO TAIPEI --- 5.950**

**AUSTRIA, RADIO AUSTRIA INTERNATIONAL --- 7.325**

**ALBANIA, RADIO TIRANA --- 6.115, 7.160 (BOTH WEAK)**

**VATICAN CITY, VATICAN RADIO --- 7.305, 9.605 (WEAK)**

**ECUADOR, HCJB --- 9.745**

**LITHUANIA, RADIO VILNIUS --- 7.325**

**USA, ARMED FORCES RADIO NETWORK --- 6.458 UPPER SIDEBAND (I'M LISTENING TO THIS AS I TYPE)**

**I TRIED, BUT COULD NOT GET IRAN, IRAQ, OR NORTH KOREA.**

THERE ARE MANY DOMESTIC SHORTWAVE STATIONS THAT BROADCAST POLITICAL PROGRAMS. TRY THE FOLLOWING. YOU MAY NOT AGREE WITH THE CONTENT, BUT IT WILL BE INTERESTING!!!

**WWCR ---12.160 (DAYTIME), 3.210, 5.070, 5.935, 9.475**

**WBCQ --- 7.415**

**WHRI --- 5.745**

**WSHB --- 5.85**

**WTJC --- 9.370**

**WWRB --- 5.050, 5.085, 6.890**

**WBOH --- 5.920 (NEW STATION, JUST STARTED TESTING THIS WEEKEND)**

REMEMBER, ALL OF THE ABOVE WAS EASILY TUNED IN WITH A BASIC LAPTOP SW RADIO. WITH AN EXTERNAL ANTENNA AND BETTER SELECTIVITY, YOU CAN DO TWICE AS GOOD AS I DID. LET ME KNOW!!!

*73 de Bill - W2XOY*

*W*



## Vanity Callsign Fee Hike

From ARRL Headquarters—Newington, CT March 26, 2003.  
The FCC proposed March 26 increasing the regulatory fee to apply for, renew or reinstate an Amateur Radio vanity call sign from \$14.50 to \$16.30 this fall.

The Commission included the new fee in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003" (MD 03-83), released today.



The closing date for comments on the new fee schedule is April 25. Reply comments are due by May 5.

"We estimate that 9800 applicants will apply for vanity call signs in FY2003," the FCC said in its NPRM. That's up by 800 from FY2002. It expects to collect revenues of nearly \$160,000, an increase of almost \$30,000 from FY2002.

The FCC NPRM also seeks comments on its efforts to review, streamline and modernize its fee assessment and collection processes and procedures. "We welcome comment on a broad range of options in this regard," the FCC said. Areas of particular interest includes suggestions for improvement in the agency's electronic payment system.

Interested parties may comment via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) on the web at, <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs>. Enter "MD 03-83" in the "Proceeding" field. Electronic comments by e-mail also are welcome.

## New I.R.S. 1040 EZ Tax Form

 <b>Internal Revenue Service</b> DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
<b>IRS</b> <b>1040EZ2DO - Tax Form</b> New Simplified Tax Form for 2002
1. How Much Money Did You Make? \$ _____
2. Send It to Us.


## Runnin of the Green

Karen Smith, KB2UUC, would like to thank the large turnout for our 1st Public Service event for 2003 a few weeks ago. For those of you that missed it we had the "Running of the Green" over in Green Island on Saturday, March 8. This race was sponsored by the Hudson / Mohawk Runner Assn., under the direction of Ken Skinner and Karen Smith-KB2UUC.

Those that participated were:

KB2SPM	KB2UUC	KC2HWE	KC2JDW
KA2TJZ	KC2HCE	KC2HNC	KB2KDY
KB2SRC	KB2GMW	KB2HWL	KC2KMA
WB2LXC			



## Uses for Duck Tape



# *Hamspeak Flea Market Terms*



This rig puts out a BIG signal  
This is a really good CW rig  
This is a really good SSB rig  
This is a really good rig  
The transmitter is outstanding  
The receiver is really hot  
This rig is really hot  
It seems to be a vintage regenerative type  
I just retubed it  
I just aligned it  
I don't know if it works  
It doesn't chirp  
The audio sounds great  
I just had it serviced  
It comes with the original box  
Better buy it now, cause it won't last  
Sure, it works at full power  
This rig has wide frequency coverage  
Frequency stability is great  
Real popular rig in its day

QST gave this one a really great review  
It might need a bit of tweaking  
It was used in government service  
The dial drive may need lubricating  
I plugged it in to check that it lights up  
I'm selling it because I have two of them  
You won't find one at a better price  
This is a collector's item

It came from an estate sale  
I had it on the air just last night  
It worked last time I used it  
The only lightning damage was a fuse  
I have the [] somewhere, I'll send it to you  
I'll help you carry it to the car  
It works ok on 80 meters

The tubes used by this rig are worth  
the asking price

This is the rig of my dreams I really  
wanted one of these as a kid, but now  
I've got to let it go !!!  
The signal quality of this rig was easily  
recognizable in its day  
You'd better buy it now, because  
I'm leaving soon

It's 50 kHz wide  
It doesn't work on SSB  
It doesn't work on CW  
It doesn't work on CW or SSB  
It doesn't receive  
It doesn't transmit  
It's stolen  
It oscillates  
Got 'em from questionable used tube stock  
The slugs on the transformers are jammed  
It doesn't work - probably never has  
It doesn't chirp because it doesn't transmit  
The 120Hz buzz is faithfully reproduced  
I sprayed WD-40 over all the wiring  
Just brush out the kitty litter  
No translation needed  
It sucks all it can from the wall  
It drifts up and down and out of band  
The VFO doesn't work - you'll have to use crystals  
There were whole HF nets on the repair and maintenance  
problems  
The language broke new ground for profanity  
Marconi himself couldn't fix it, much less align it  
It was stored outdoors on a wooden pallet  
The gears are stripped and the set screws are frozen  
The light came from the two-foot high flame  
I'm getting rid of my parts radio  
Better from the point of view of the seller  
The manufacturer just went belly up and won't honor the  
warranty  
If you have any problem take it up with the original owner  
And you thought the woodpecker was gone  
If it still worked I'd still be using it  
The only lightning damage I recognized was a fuse  
You'll never see the []  
I'll do anything to unload this boat anchor  
It had some parasitics but I got in and really screwed it up  
and now I want to unload it  
The rig uses a rare 7360 beam deflection tube for a balanced  
modulator, but it's blown and you'll spend \$80 to get a new  
one  
As I've gotten older, I've learned what a hunka junk it is  
  
The high distortion and bad audio quickly identified this rig  
  
The previous buyer and his brother, Guido, are heading  
back towards this table and neither one if them are smiling

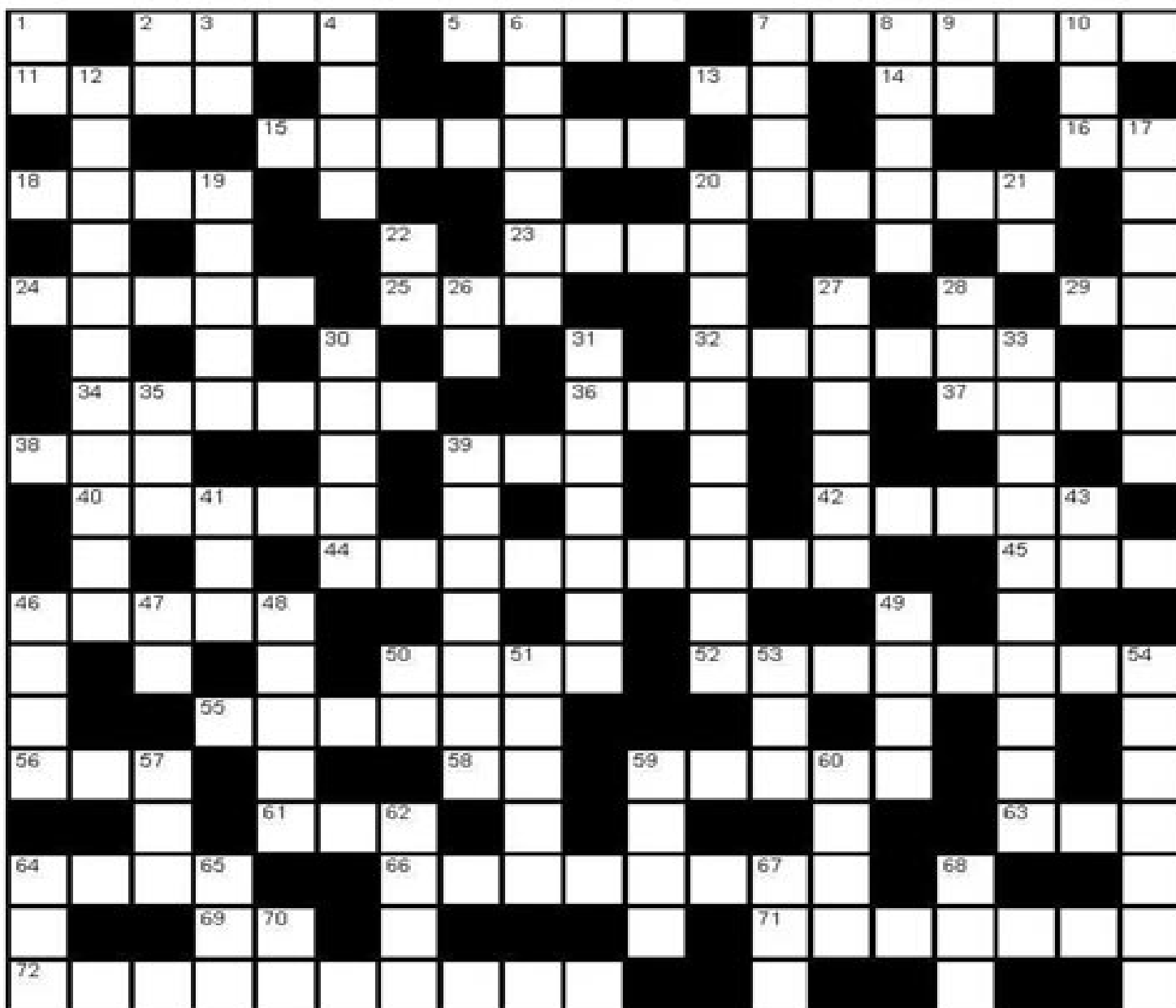


# *Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler* by H.Ward Silver N0AX

## **The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler**

(Mar 28, 2003) -- Have fun playing Ham Radio Magazine Publisher! This time we take a cruise through the section of the dictionary that relates to ham radio magazines and all those myriad activities that take place to put *QST* in your hands every month. Put on your green eye-shade, sharpen that editor's pencil and have at it!

Ward Silver, N0AX, is the author-- among numerous other things-- of the Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler, which appears twice a month on the ARRL Web site. He can be reached by e-mail at [n0ax@arrl.net](mailto:n0ax@arrl.net)



### Across

2. Main story
5. Repeat a sound
7. One print run of a magazine or book
11. Unwanted ad
13. Battery supplied power (abbr.)
14. What part don't you understand?
15. A writer must also be a good .....
16. Low Frequency (abbr.)
18. Circular antenna
20. Magazines have one on the front and back
23. Receive magazines via this
24. ARRL and QST founder
25. Sharp and thin for joining or holding
29. Teletype (abbr.)
32. Writes antenna column for Worldradio
34. Writer
36. Type of AC measurement (abbr.)
37. Smell
38. File Transfer Protocol (abbr.)
39. When finished, ... it to bed
40. A completed magazine
42. Founder of 73 Magazine
44. Pay to receive magazine
45. Printed
46. Takes a photo
50. Editors must have this quality
52. Last date for submitting material
55. Scan through quickly
56. An idea or suggestion
58. Opposite of she
59. Jerk back and forth
61. Sweet potato
63. Adjustable receive frequency (abbr.)
64. Timely information
66. Put together
69. Intellectual Property (abbr.)
71. Person or business financing an event
72. Reporter

Here's the Solution – Don't Peek

[http://www.arrl.org/news/puzzles/2003/03/28/1/071\\_Solution.jpg](http://www.arrl.org/news/puzzles/2003/03/28/1/071_Solution.jpg)

### Down

1. Do .. I say
2. Big California city (abbr.)
3. Electromagnetic (abbr.)
4. Regular set of articles (abbr.)
6. Runs every month
7. 5 Across again
8. List of articles
9. In the direction of
10. Lubricate
12. Every ham magazine has a column on this
17. Special article
19. Transfer to paper
20. Ads sorted by topic
21. ARRL sponsors this contest
22. Opinion (abbr.)
26. To be
27. First name of CQ's longest-running columnist
28. Or Best Offer (abbr.)
30. Irwin Math writes this CQ column
31. Story in a magazine
33. Business paying to display information
35. Big brown truck company
39. Own and distribute a magazine
41. Tree fluid
43. Not applicable (abbr.)
46. Long thin hole
47. Antenna tuner (abbr.)
48. QST's corrections
49. Not being used
50. CQ sponsors this contest
51. Looks for
53. Estimated Time of Arrival (abbr.)
54. Persons that review and correct material
57. Church seat
59. Identical
60. Retain
62. Send by post
64. Contest magazine
65. Formal salutation for males
67. Bit of least value (abbr.)
68. Last
70. Type of semiconductor junction (abbr.)



# Times when you are happy That you're the Amateur

Crane: \$1,500

Antennas: \$2,700

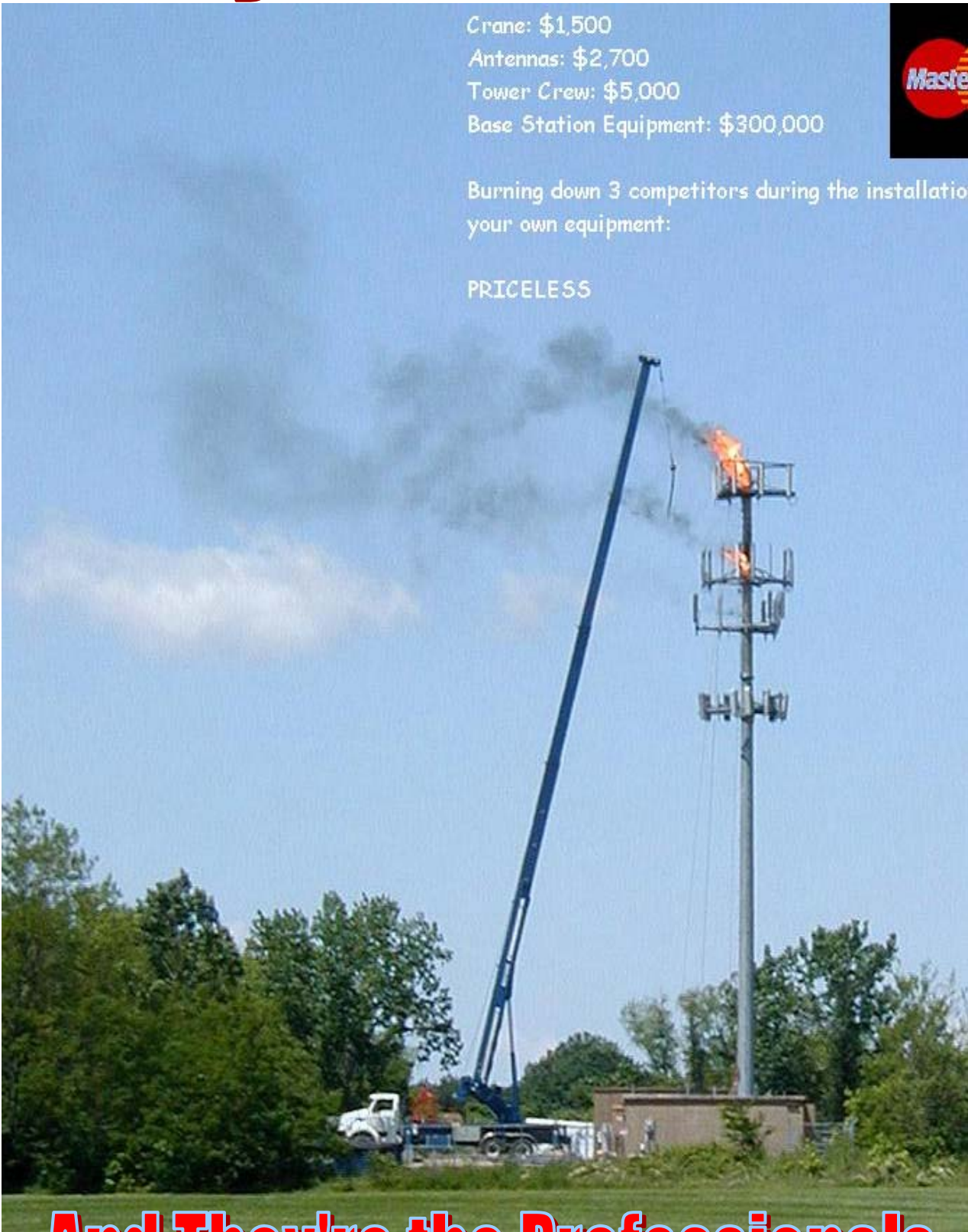
Tower Crew: \$5,000

Base Station Equipment: \$300,000

Maste

Burning down 3 competitors during the installation  
your own equipment:

PRICELESS



# And They're the Professionals



# ***From the Editor's Desk***



In the heightened state of “ORANGE” posted by the Dept of Homeland Security and in light of the recent events in the Mideast, All amateur operators should be prepared to identify themselves when approached by Law enforcement officials as to what they are doing and what their equipment is.

Be friendly and understanding. Law enforcement has a difficult job in these trying times of heightened security.

## **Are you active with you ARES/RACES or some other EmComm group?**

Carry your FCC License and any other related ID + a real picture ID. Make the job of Law enforcement officers easier and less stressful. If you are operating mobile or portable in the field or on the road, operating mobile, Portable or DX'ing.

Explain to them, "I am a Licensed amateur radio operator" and if you have taken the ARRL EMCOMM courses your may tell them that you are a trained emergency communicator and I'm checking out my field setup.

Education and understanding, dispels suspicion. Try saying to the inquiring officer, "Would you like to see how it all works?"

You never know !!! If the officer has time, he might just take you up on it. Take the time to educate him about amateur radio, both the emergency applications and the fun part of the hobby. If he is interested, explain to the officer about SKYWARN, RACES and ARES also.

You never know, he may just be interested enough to become a new ham in the future or you may just have made a new friend that will understand your hobby.

If you do it the right way, the officer may pass the information on to others in public safety who are not aware of what we do in the Amateur Radio Service.

If you come on with a snotty attitude when stopped by law enforcement, you are doing an injustice to the Amateur Radio Service and to all of your fellow operators.

Negative comments about law enforcement, Firefighters and Emergency Services and their jobs, in general, should be refrained from on the radio. Give them all, a little credit. Quite a few of them are on our side and are already aware of the importance of amateur radio, SKYWARN, RACES and ARES and often have amateur repeater frequencies in the scanners in their patrol cars. On the TARA repeater alone, I know of at least a dozen officers who are hams that are either retired or still active. I would not even fathom to guess how many of our amateur population are firefighters or other emergency services personnel.

I am not saying it will always work, but it doesn't hurt to be courteous. PLEASE, give it you best effort.

Fraternally in amateur radio,

Kenneth T. Davis A.R.S. KB2KFV (Gen)

Retired Police Chief – Village of Green Island, NY

President Rensselaer County ARES/RACES group

2<sup>nd</sup> Radio Officer Rensselaer County RACES

Member Albany County RACES and ARES

Skywarn Certified Weather Spotter

EMCOMM - Level 1 - certified ARRL/CCE

***Always Buy the Extended Service Contract, if you have a pet***



Well, we have all heard of the saying "Kitten on the keys" but this is a new twist, "Puppy on the 'Puter."

If you can't see what this cute little pup is doing on top of the computer, feel free to zoom in for a better view.

Just think how the poor guy that took this picture felt, after this unexpected surprise.

If you have pets, electronic equipment is always at risk from chewing, biting & pulling on wires so use your head and take necessary precautions.

## ***RADIO COMMENTATOR PAUL HARVEY PLUGS HAM RADIO'S EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS***

Veteran ABC Radio Networks commentator Paul Harvey a few weeks ago, offered some kind words for Ham Radio. The mention was the second item on "page four" of his March 19, Paul Harvey Noon News and Comment program.

"America's quiet warriors are the legion of ham radio operators, 700,000 of them, who are always at ready for backup duty in emergencies--amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian radio operators, during and after floods and fires and tornadoes," Harvey said. "After the 9/11 attacks, hams were indispensable in reuniting friends and families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the space shuttle Columbia, and right now, at this moment, they are involved in homeland security to a greater degree than you would want me to make public."

The commentary's enigmatic and mysterious final sentence--typical of Harvey's habit of leaving his listeners hanging--apparently refers to the fact that many Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) teams have ramped up their alert status as hostilities get under way in the Middle East.

The entire Wednesday noon broadcast is available on Paul Harvey's Web site <http://www.paulharvey.com> . Click on the Wednesday noon link under "Listen Now."

**Join your ARES and RACES group and you will know the rest of the story.....**

## ***2003 ATVET EXAM SCHEDULE***

***ATVET***

***May 10, 2003 (Sat.) 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (doors open 9:20 AM)***

***July 23, 2003 (Wed.) 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (doors open 6:20 PM)***

***October 11, 2003 (Sat.) 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (doors open 9:20 AM)***

***November 8, 2003 (Sat.) 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (doors open 9:20 AM)***

***Exams will be held on the R.P.I. Campus, CII Building Room 3051***

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# ***THE TARA NEWS***

Troy Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

**P.O. Box 1292**

**Troy, New York. 12181-1292**



Visit us on the Internet

At <http://www.n2ty.org/>

## **Next Meeting**

***Our 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party***

***\*\*\*REVISED DATE & TIME\*\*\****

***Tuesday, April 22, 2003 7:00 p.m.***

**Green Island Municipal Center**

**Intersection of**

**Hudson Avenue & George Street**

**HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE**

***Parking Lot on Hudson Avenue side of building***

***Meeting date changed due to***

***conflict with G.I. Village Meeting***

***Troy's Full Service Repeaters***

***145.170/R***

***444.225/R***