



# THE TARA NEWS

*Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League*

**Volume 17 © Issue 08 August 2006**

## 2006 TARA Fund Drive Raffle

Have I got great news for all of you out there. Our last Picnic meeting kicked off our Annual Summer/Fall Fund Drive for TARA. Thanks to Tom, N2TR and his brother we have plenty of raffle tickets on hand for everyone. We're hoping that all of you will help us by either buying a few tickets or selling them to your friends. Tickets will sell for \$2.00 each or 5 tickets for just \$5.00!

Here are the prizes that we'll be raffling.

**1ST PLACE: Bird-43 Thruline SWR/WATT Meter or \$250.00**

**2ND PLACE: Yaesu FT-1802 - 50 Watt VHF Mobile Radio or \$100.00**

**3RD PLACE: Your Choice of a BOZAK VHF or UHF BASE ANTENNA or \$50.00**

The drawing for this raffle will take place at the Ballston Spa Hamfest up in Saratoga County on September 9th. You DO NOT have to be present in order to win any of these prizes.

I hope you will help us out.

**73 de NY2U,**

*"Mr. Bill"*



**1<sup>st</sup> Prize Bird 43 Thruline  
SWR/Watt Meter  
or \$ 250.00**



**2nd Prize Yaesu FT-1802  
50 Watt VHF Mobile Radio  
or \$ 100.00**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize  
Bozak Antenna  
or \$ 50.00**



*More than a Club*



*We're a Family*



# Upcoming Public Service Events

## 2006 Pumpkin Patrol

Boys and Gouhls, mark your calendar for this years' "Pumpkin Patrol". With Jack Donnelly heading down to the beautiful South. Karen Smith, KS20 will now be responsible for covering all posts. Please let your friends know we need all the amateurs that we can muster for this event.



## Vanity Call Sign Fee to Drop September 6

NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 1, 2006--The regulatory fee to obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will drop slightly starting with applications received by the FCC on or after Wednesday, September 6, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) says. The new fee will be \$20.80 for the 10-year license term. This year promises to be a big one for vanity call sign renewals, since the initial round of vanity grants under the current system occurred in 1996. Licensees who want to retain vanity call signs issued under the current (post-1995) system must pay the regulatory fee when renewing.

"Consistent with our established practice, we plan to collect these regulatory fees in the August-September 2006 time frame in order to collect the required amount by the end of the fiscal year," the FCC explained in a July 17 *Report and Order* ([R&O](#)), "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2006," in MD Docket 06-68. The FY 2006 vanity fee is a bit higher than the \$20.10 for the license term that the Commission had proposed in a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* last March. The current vanity call sign fee of \$21.90 remains in effect for applications received by the FCC before September 6.

### License Renewal

Amateur Radio licensees may file renewal applications no sooner than 90 days of their license expiration date. While the regulatory fee payment *is* required from licensees wishing to keep their current vanity call signs after renewal, vanity holders can opt to get a sequential call sign and avoid paying any fee when they renew. The WTB clarified filing procedures earlier this year in a [public notice](#).

ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, says the FCC handled the Gate 1 vanity call sign license renewals from June without any delay or problems. "I'm sure Gate 2 will go just as smoothly if you use one of the automated methods of filing, such as via the ARRL or using the Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#))," she predicted. "Paper filings to the FCC can be confusing and difficult." The FCC renewed nearly 3000 vanity call sign licenses during June and July.

Amateur Radio licensees holding vanity call signs granted prior to 1996 **do not** have to pay a regulatory fee when renewing. This is because Congress did not begin requiring the FCC to annually recover its regulatory costs until 1993. Additionally, such licensees are not specifically tagged as vanity call sign holders in the ULS.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/08/01/3/?nc=1>

## TARA Picnic Park Meeting on August 15, 2006



Our next Picnic in the Park meeting will be at the Hudson Shores Park in Watervliet on August 15, 2006 at 6:00 PM. If you would like to make a salad or bring a dessert or anything that you think would make the picnic special. Also, please be courteous enough to let them know that you are coming to the meeting and how many people will be with you. All amateurs are welcome. You do not have to be a TARA member to attend these summer picnics or any of our functions. Please contact Mr. Bill At 273-9248 or Karen Smith 273-6594.

# FIVE RADIO AMATEURS NOW ABOARD THE SPACE STATION

Five cosmonaut or astronaut-hams now are aboard the International Space Station, and one of them -- European Space Agency astronaut Thomas Reiter, DF4TR -- has officially joined the Expedition 13 crew for the remainder of its duty tour and for about half of Expedition 14's tour -- six months in all, according to NASA. His arrival marks the first time since May 2003 that the ISS has had a three-member crew. Reiter and six other astronauts -- two of them also hams -- arrived July 6 aboard shuttle Discovery. A veteran of the Russian Mir space station, he's the first ESA astronaut to become part of a long-term ISS crew. He told reporters July 7 that it feels good to be back in space after 11 years.

"The body somehow remembers the feeling of weightlessness, how to move, how to work in space," Reiter remarked. "It's a huge station. There is a lot of space inside here."

There to greet the newcomers when they came aboard the ISS were Expedition 13 Commander Pavel Vinogradov, RV3BS, and Flight Engineer and NASA Science Officer Jeff Williams, KD5TVQ. The shuttle and ISS crews will spend the next week conducting joint operations, including two space walks and transferring cargo from and to Discovery. Reiter said he's looking forward to his space walk with Williams in early August.

"I think everyone can imagine when you are up in space for a long time, it's really great to go outside at least once," he said. Discovery shot into space from Cape Kennedy July 4 -- the first Independence Day shuttle launch ever and only the second since the Columbia disaster in 2003. Relieved mission control personnel reacted with hoots, handshakes and hugs after the twice-postponed Discovery mission STS-121 reached preliminary orbit without a hitch.

Weather worries kept Discovery on the launch pad July 1 and 2. NASA managers also were concerned about a crack discovered in foam insulation near a bracket holding the liquid oxygen feed line in place on the external fuel tank. Some insulation also broke free during launch.

The STS-121 crew includes Commander Steve Lindsey; Pilot Mark Kelly; and mission specialists Stephanie Wilson, KD5DZE, Lisa Nowak, KC5ZTB; Mike Fossum and Piers Sellers.

To be on the safe side, prior to docking, Lindsey piloted Discovery through a back-flip maneuver to allow Vinogradov and Williams to eyeball and capture imagery of the orbiter's heat shield for any signs of damage.

NASA is pinning its hopes on a successful Discovery mission, since the space shuttle is the only vehicle capable of transporting the components remaining to complete the ISS, including the ESA's Columbus module, which has been outfitted to accommodate Amateur Radio.

NASA astronauts Michael Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Sunita Williams, KD5PLB, and Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT, have been named as the 14th ISS crew. Expedition 14 is scheduled to begin this fall.

## Home Security, Please pass this on

Next time you come home for the night and you go to put your keys away, think of this:

It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Start keeping your car keys next to your bed on the night stand when you go to bed at night.

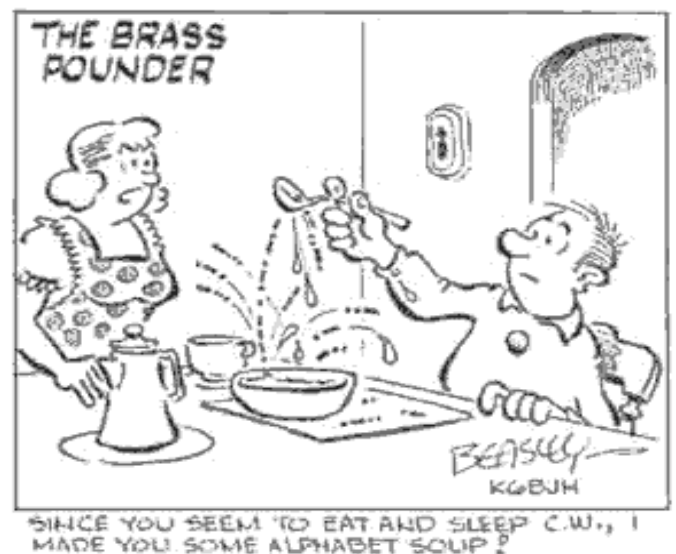
If you think someone is trying to get into your house, or if you hear a noise outside your house, just press the panic alarm on your car key chain.

Test it! It will go off from most everywhere Inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage.

If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break in your house, odds are the burglar or rapist won't stick around. After a few seconds all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that. Try yours to make sure it works before you rely on it. Just know that you must press the alarm button again to turn it off.

And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there.....

This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or a sexual abuse crime.





# Congratulations

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Patti Lensink ( **KC2PWO**) on passing her Tech exam. She wanted to surprise everyone at TARA and get her ticket for Field Day. You go Girl !!

Patti is XYL to Mike N2JVE.

Below are pictures of Patty and Mike at Las Vegas Motor Speedway at the Richard Petty Driving Experience in 2005.



## First ARRL Online Auction

### Planned for October

The ARRL may be giving eBay and the other auction sites a little competition in the Amateur Radio arena this fall when the first ARRL Online Auction gets under way. Auction proceeds will help to support the League's educational services and programs. The event now is in the planning stages, says ARRL Business Services Manager Deb Jahnke, K1DAJ. "We will soon embark on an exciting new venture," Jahnke said in providing the broad strokes of the online auction to ARRL Headquarters staff members. Jahnke and her Business Services team will organize and manage the event, which is planned for late October -- the exact dates haven't been set yet -- and she promises it will be lots of fun. "This will not be just another boring auction, because we plan to include many unique and special items related to Amateur Radio," she said. "We are hoping to offer items that will interest our audience, ranging from DXpedition vacation rentals to restored Collins 75A4s." Jahnke says this inaugural online auction will be limited to 100 items.

The auction will be open to all -- ARRL members and otherwise. Bidders just need online access to take part. "With an online auction, we can reach potential bidders across the nation and around the world," Jahnke pointed out. Jahnke says she anticipates that the online auction will be open for about two weeks, and participants will need to register in advance. At this stage, she says, the auction planners are seeking additional ideas but no auction booty as yet. Contact Jahnke via e-mail [djahnke@arrl.org](mailto:djahnke@arrl.org)

Source: The ARRL Letter Vol. 25, No. 30 July 28, 2006



# Dr Charles E. "Chuck" Brady Jr, SK

NEWINGTON, CT, Jul 27, 2006--Retired space shuttle astronaut and DXer Chuck Brady, N4BQW, of Oak Harbor, Washington, died July 23 following a lengthy illness. He was 54. During his years as an active astronaut in the 1990s, Brady was among the pioneers of SAREX (Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment). An ARRL member, he was active on ham radio during the 16-day STS-78 shuttle mission in 1996, then the longest ever.

In 1997 he became NASA's chief for space station astronaut training. ARRL Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program liaison Rosalie White, K1STO, says Brady was a radio amateur long before he took part in SAREX.

Complete article on

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/07/27/1/?nc=1>

## STEVE BOLIA, N8BJQ, NAMED CQ WPX AWARD MANAGER

**Hicksville, New York - August 1, 2006** - Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, has been named the new manager of the CQ WPX Award program, following the retirement of Norm Koch, WN5N (ex-K6ZDL), CQ Publisher and President Dick Ross, K2MGA, announced today. The WPX Awards are issued for confirmed contacts with stations having different callsign prefixes. Norm held the reins of the WPX Award program for 25 years, taking over the job late in 1981. "We thank Norm for his many years of devoted service to the WPX program, to CQ and to amateur radio," said Ross, "We wish him all the best in the future."

Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, served as CQ WPX Contest Director from 1982 to 2003, is a member of the CQ Contest Committee and of the CQ Contesting Hall of Fame. His DXing credentials are even more impressive, as he holds CW, SSB and Mixed Worked All Zones (WAZ) awards, is on the DXCC Honor Roll for Mixed and CW, and holds 5-Band DXCC, RTTY DXCC and 160-Meter DXCC. He has also made several DXpeditions, to KH9 (Wake Is.), J6 (St. Lucia) and the rare CQ zone 2 (northeastern Canada). Professionally, Steve works as a defense contractor after retiring from a 22-year career in the U.S. Air Force.

WPX Award applications and updates previously filed with WN5N have been transferred to N8BJQ and will be processed as quickly as possible. See the September issue of CQ for updated address information for award submissions.



Chuck Brady, N4BQW, in his official NASA Astronaut Corps portrait. [NASA Photo]

## Radiation Resistance vs. Antenna Resistance

The terms 'radiation resistance' and 'antenna resistance' are sometimes used interchangeably by amateurs, but they shouldn't be, because they have distinctly different meanings. Radiation resistance is equal to the power radiated by an antenna divided by the square of the rms (effective) antenna current at a specified point in an antenna. That point usually is the point where RF power is supplied. In contrast, antenna resistance is equal to the power supplied to an entire antenna circuit divided by the square of the rms (effective) antenna current at a specified point. The difference between the power-values used in the two calculations is the loss power, because the antenna resistance calculation includes not only radiated power, but also power lost in RF conductor resistance, eddy current loss, insulator leakage loss, dielectric loss, corona loss, ground resistance loss, and any other power loss.





# Making Connections *A Series of Articles*

## By *John "Steve" VanSickle* WB2HPR

A faulty connection on my HF mobile antenna prompted me to take a hard look at the wiring in my mobile installation. After making temporary repairs, I was able to resume normal mobile operation while on a recent road trip. In between QSO's, I thought about how much time had passed since I had checked those ground connections, battery connections, and antenna control wires.

It seems that mother nature had begun to take its toll – there was wear and tear, evidenced by pinched and cut cables, broken connections, corrosion, and suspect hardware. You see, the very ingredients which we find to be life sustaining, (sun and rain) are ruinous to electrical circuits and connections. The sun, producing heat and UV radiation, can wreak havoc with wire insulation, causing breakdown of its desired mechanical and electrical properties. Rain (and snow) with it's varying pH (usually less than 7, and thus mildly acidic), as well as road de-icers can really raise the dickens with connections, too. So – hot/cold, dry/wet, conditions produce chronic failure wherever they can creep in to destroy our radio systems. Not to mention vibration, and even the wind itself, which can add to this equation for failure.

I began to systematically re-make all of the antenna connections. This required me to take all of them apart, examine each component - be it wire, terminal, lug, or plug, then clean and polish all of the contact areas, especially vehicle grounding points. All parts which were heavily corroded, were replaced. Other parts were simply cleaned using 3M Scotch-brite cleaning pads and crocus cloth. Vehicle grounds and bonding straps were replaced. And since the hood was open, the battery connections were disassembled and cleaned, too. All of the "new" connections were liberally coated with anti-oxidant. The pictures tell the story. There is nothing mysterious or hi-tech about the process. It's just something we have to do. Let's face it– if there comes a time when you're depending on *your* mobile rig – either to render emergency communications during a natural disaster or other emergency – you want that equipment to *work* ! We are all on the air frequently - testing our operating skills and systems – and it's easy to become complacent when everything is working OK. We need to take a few minutes, on a regular basis, to check our installations for weaknesses which can lead to failure. So the next time you change the oil, and check the tire pressure, take a few extra minutes to look at those coax cables, plugs, grounds and power leads. Make repairs so that your rig will do its job when you are called upon to make connections!

**Next time:** [Taking a Look at Coax Connectors](#)



**Figure 1**  
Suspect Ground Strap



**Figure 2**  
Corroded Hardware on antenna



**Figure 3**  
Corroded ground strap



**Figure 4**  
Pinched coaxial cable



**Figure 5**  
Cut in outer jacket of coaxial cable



**Figure 6**  
Originally, Corrosion at base of antenna mast.  
Contact areas cleaned up and ready for re-assembly.



**Figure 7**  
Original manufacturer's hood bonding strap - poor quality/design!



**Figure 8**  
Home-brew hood bonding strap  
SOLID!

For more information – check the mobile installation section of the [ARRL Handbook](#).

Written by John “Steve” VanSickle / WB2HPR  
email: [wb2hpr@arrl.net](mailto:wb2hpr@arrl.net)

## ***Tech Tip***

**You will usually see fuses blow for these different reasons.**

1. - Thermal shock. Hot to cold, back to hot repeatedly.
2. - Vibrations - constant vibrations - its metal.
3. - Heat - like way too hot, such as under the hood of a car, near the exhaust.
4. - A dead short.

Usually the wire just opens up for reasons one, two and three. If the visual area of the fuse is black, like a flash bulb, then there usually is a more serious problem; a dead short. When the fuse has a current load of perhaps 150-200%, it will usually cause the fuse wire to melt in the middle, with a ball of metal on the ends of the fuse wire. Thermal reasons usually cause the fuse wire just to break (crack).

# ***TARA International Trader Net***

## **Returns in September**

# Taking the Tour To Guelph, Ontario, That is!

**By: John “ Steve” VanSickle**

Last summer, as the weather got a little milder, I decided to combine some sightseeing along with my annual pilgrimage to visit my family (who seem to be scattered all over, these days!) My tour was to take me far enough in a westerly path to allow some stops at two very unusual museums of interest to hams.

My final museum “objective” was to be the Hammond Museum of Radio, located in Guelph, Ontario. In planning my trip, I charted a course that would allow an intermediate stop at the museum of the Antique Wireless Association (AWA), in Bloomfield, NY – just south of Rochester. It didn’t seem to be too far “off the beaten path” from Thruway Exit 45 - (Victor), so off I went!

The trip down Routes 96 and 444 to Routes 5 and 20 was pleasant enough, passing through several rural towns and beautiful bucolic scenery. The weather was very nice, and I arrived at the museum in about 45 minutes from the time I exited the Thruway, not counting the time to stop for a few pictures. The museum is located in a stately brick building on the village green, right in Bloomfield. This location is superb, with its gazebo and shaded picnic tables – just the right spot for an impromptu picnic – and there’s a pizzeria nearby, too!

The building was once used as a boarding school, but now is evenly divided between the Town Historical Society and the AWA museum. AWA members, who volunteer their time to maintain and interpret the various displays, staff the museum. Each area of the museum tells a story – from spark gap transmitters (working!) to cell phones. One really neat area is set up as an old-time radio parts store, complete with shelves of vintage parts (some in original boxes), complete down to the working electro-mechanical cash register (no scanners, back then!). There is even a collection of many microphones and headphones, as well as the world’s first transistorized radio receiver. made by Bell Labs.



**This is a interesting piece of history  
A mock up of the Titanic Radio Room**

The AWA museum occupies 3 floors, from the entry vestibule up to the third level, and includes a working Marconi station, like that use on the ill-fated Titanic. Visitors should allow at least an hour or two to savor all of the nostalgia served up by this wonderful, dedicated group of people, most of whom are fellow hams, too.

Departing Bloomfield, I returned to the Thruway, this time via Rte. 390, and proceeded to Ontario, Canada via the Peace Bridge and the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW). I arrived late in the day, after business hours, but took the time to locate the museum, before returning to my hotel room for the night.

The next day, after a leisurely breakfast, I drove to the Hammond Radio Museum. It is located at one of Hammond Electronics Manufacturing facilities, in the industrial park just outside of Guelph.



# Taking the Tour

There is no sign that there is a radio museum there. However – there is a rather large tower sporting a sizeable log-periodic beam antenna! Hammond is noted for their line of chassis and molded plastic enclosures, which many home-brewers use in constructing electronic projects. This location manufactures transformers, a product which has been a mainstay of their business for many years. After checking in at the visitors' reception desk, I was issued a pass and escorted to a corner of the plant, and the glass door to the museum was unlocked. Left alone, I was free to roam the exhibit, and marvel at the wonderful collection of vintage equipment. One of Hammond's founders, Fred Hammond, VE3HC (sk) began collecting the equipment many years ago, and the museum has just about "one of everything" on display. The 100's of radios span the evolution of radio communications, from ancient spark gaps and coherers, to modern digital technology. There are 100's of pieces of equipment on display.



There is a section devoted to military communications, and a special area devoted to Collins gear. All of the equipment on display is in working condition, and they have an operational amateur station (VE3HC), in memory of Fred Hammond, which is available for guest use when a member of the radio club is present. (No one was available on the day I was there, but arrangements may be made before hand). My visit to this museum took a bit over an hour – but you can stay as long as you'd like in order to check out all of the vintage equipment. None of the displays are "behind glass" – so you can get a really good, up close and personal, view of everything there.

This museum also accepts donations, and after depositing mine and signing the guest book, I returned to the lobby, and resumed my trip to my family rendezvous.

If you are considering a visit to either (or both!) of these great radio museums, check out their hours and availability on the web. They both have numerous pictures, and offer a small glimpse of their great displays. I found the trip there was well worth the time to go. I hope that you get there, too! The Hammond Collection is extensive and impressive.



For location and further information on these fine organizations, visit their web sites:

<http://www.antiquewireless.org/museum/museum.htm> - Access can be daunting for those having physical limitations. Donations accepted.

<http://www.hammondmuseumofradio.org/> - Access is easy for everyone. Donations accepted.

Photos Copyright - Steve VanSickle 2006

Shortcut to: <http://www.tuberadioland.com/> Courtesy of John Melesky

# George J. Smith Jr. - N2YXC, SK

RENSSELAER George J. Smith Jr., age 74 years, of Patroon Point passed away Sunday, July 16, 2006 at St. Peter's Hospital. He was born in Albany and was raised in the City of Rensselaer. He was a 1950 graduate of St. John's Academy in Rensselaer and lettered in baseball, basketball and football. George was an altar and choir boy at St. John's Church in Rensselaer. He was a former member of the E. F. Hart Hose Fire Company in Rensselaer. Mr. Smith was a decorated Korean War U.S. Marine Corps veteran attaining the rank of Sgt. serving with the 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment and 1st Marine Division, earning Three Battle Stars. After the war, he joined the NY State Police where he worked in Troop G in Loudonville and continued his career, retiring from Equifax Services in 1991. George was an avid outdoorsman enjoying the outdoors where he liked to hunt, fish and trap for all of his life. He was a member of the NRA where he was a certified rifle, pistol and shotgun instructor as well as a NYS Hunter Training Instructor. He enjoyed HAM Radio who's call letters were N2YXC and was a member of the Troy Amateur Radio Association. George was a very loyal NY Yankees Baseball and Boston Celtic Basketball fan. He was a snowbird traveling to Bradenton, Fla. for many years. He was a member of Rensselaer Council #267 K of C and the Korean War Veterans Association. He coached baseball in the East Greenbush Little League and CYO Basketball for St. Mary's in Clinton Heights. Husband of Jane McDermott Smith of Rensselaer; father of Kathleen (David) Haggerty and Jim (Maryann) Smith, both of East Greenbush; grandfather of Alexandra and Jimmy Smith and Andrew Haggerty, all of East Greenbush; son of the late George J. Smith Sr. and Martha Swart Smith; brother of Jack (Rose) Smith of Rensselaer; brother-in-law of Mary McDermott McKeever; uncle of Diane Nardacci, Darlene Smith, both of Rensselaer and Maureen Regan of Glendale, Calif. Funeral from W. J. Lyons Jr. Funeral Home, 1700 Washington Avenue, Rensselaer Wednesday morning at 9:30 and 10:30 at St. John's Church, Herrick Street, Rensselaer where the Liturgy of Christian Death and Burial will be offered. Relatives and friends are invited and may call at the funeral home Tuesday from 4-8 p.m. Interment will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, East Greenbush. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Arthritis Foundation, Northeastern NY Chapter, 1717 Central Ave., Suite 105, Albany, NY 12205. Condolence page at [www.wjlyonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.wjlyonsfuneralhome.com)

George loved working the HF bands using his favorite mode CW. On the HF bands I don't think he even owned a microphone, it was Morse Code or nothing. He had a great sense of humor and we had many hours of joking with him on the TARA repeaters a few years back. He'll be deeply missed for sure.

## ARES EDITORIAL:

### KNOW YOUR SERVED AGENCY

The purpose of ARES is to provide a service -- communication. To facilitate this, we educate our members, drill net protocols, practice message passing, and learn emerging technology. But how many can say they know anything about the entities ARES serves?

Unless having completed the FEMA ICS courses, little is likely known about a system used by many emergency management offices. While operationally significant, the Incident Command System only gives a partial picture of emergency management communication needs. While radio amateurs are practiced net control operators, how many have the exposure to public safety protocols and procedures to be an effective dispatcher if the county 800 MHz trunk system fails?

Another primary consumer of ARES services is the Red Cross. How many ARES operators know what services the Red Cross provides in a disaster relief operation? How many know how a Red Cross operation transitions when its National headquarters becomes involved? Unless the ARES member is also an active Red Cross volunteer, the answer is likely very few.

As communicators, why should we care? Because knowing the operational protocols and procedures of those we serve will increase our effectiveness as communicators for them. What does it take to be trained on ICS or the Red Cross' procedures? Time. FEMA has the ICS courses available free at their online Emergency Management Institute. The Red Cross' Introduction to Disaster Services course is available free online at the national Red Cross website. The Red Cross' Logistics Overview and Shelter Operations courses, which provide the basics of the operations for which ARES mainly would be moving traffic, are free through the local chapter.

The other key aspect to knowing your consumers is making sure they know you. If the only time government agencies and organizations see or hear from ARES is as a disaster operation executes, they have little reason to have confidence in ARES' capabilities. In some cases, if there has not been regular collaborative contact before a disaster, ARES may not even be included in their operational plans.

Expertise in Amateur Radio modes of communication makes the ARES operator a valuable asset. Knowledge of the agencies and organizations ARES offers its services will make ARES operators more effective and will provide a method to build an environment of collaboration with consumers before a disaster occurs. Additionally, Homeland Security is mandating the use of ICS. Therefore, OEMs are beginning to require proof of ICS training before ARES members can even step in their EOC or participate in their operations. With the lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina, the Red Cross is implementing additional safety and security measures a person must qualify through to work with a Red Cross operation.

Bottom line, ARES groups need to build and maintain a collaborative environment with the agencies and organizations they wish to serve or risk finding themselves sidelined. –

Michael Potaczala, KC4NUS, AEC, Orange County, Florida

**TARA OFFICERS: 1 YEAR TERMS**

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 Vice President: Karen Smith, KS2O.....273-6594  
 Secretary: Marilyn Davis, KB2JZI.....272-0112  
 Treasurer: Tom Remmert, N2TR

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 Roy Warner N2OWC.....(05-07)..283-8485  
 Ken Smith WA2TQK.....(06-07)..  
 Steve VanSickle WB2HPR.....(06-07)..

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**REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:**

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Bill Eddy, NY2U.....273-9248

**TARA HF CONTESTING:**

Bill Eddy, NY2U.....273-9248

HF DX & Contest Manager - NY2U

**(Just Temp for now!) Or so he thought!!!**

**TARA VHF/UHF CONTESTING:**

Contest Manager - Ray Ginter, N2ZQF

**PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS:**

Karen Smith, KS2O.....273-6594

Mac Smith, KB2SPM.....273-6594

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**ATVET(ALB/TROY)VE TEAM:**

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**FIELD DAY 2005 CHAIRMEN:**

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Steve Kopecky, KF2WA 674-4150

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PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES ON THE AIRWAVE'S**

# ***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/>**

**Regular monthly Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 15, 2006**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Hudson Shores Park**

**Intersection of**

**23<sup>rd</sup> St. At Lower Hudson Ave.**

**Watervliet, New York**

***Ample Parking***

**Parking Lot in the Park**

**Just off I 787**

**Troy's Full Service Repeaters**

**145.170/R**

**447.075/R**