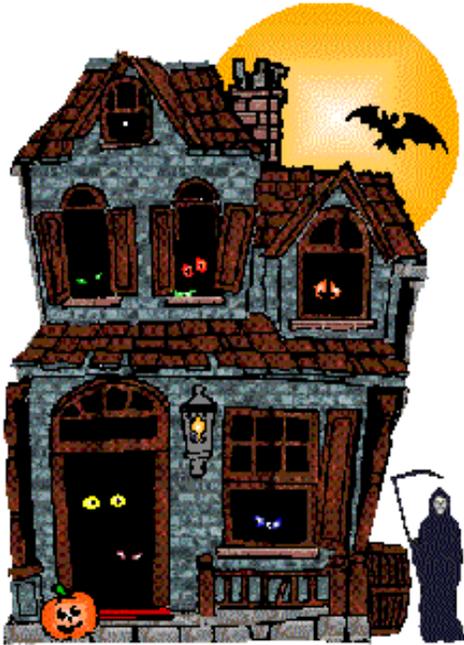




THE TARA NEWS

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League
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UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

PUMPKIN PATROL 2004

We are still looking for any volunteers for the Annual Pumpkin Patrol, for Oct. 30th and 31st from 6:00 p.m. until 10 p.m. Anyone who wants to volunteer for this event will be greatly appreciated. Please contact me anytime if you can help.



Karen KB2UUC 273-6594
Email: ksmithkb2uuc@aol.com

18th Annual Green Island "Run for Hunger"

It's hard to believe that another year has passed already, but the First Saturday in November is just around the corner. Saturday, November 6, 2004 will be this year's Run.

All amateur radio volunteers are requested to meet at the Green Island PD at 8:45 AM. This is a fairly quick race and everything should be completed by 11:00 A.M.

The purpose of this run is to raise funds for the Green Island and Watervliet Food Pantry. Anyone wishing to participate in the run can contact me for a "Pledge Sheet." **Ken Davis –KB2KFV at 272-0112 or Contact Karen Smith – KB2UUC at 273-6594**, if you would be available to assist with communications, for this event.



More than a Club



We're a Family



TWENTY SUREFIRE WAYS TO DESTROY YOUR CLUB

1. Don't attend meetings, but if you do, arrive late.
2. Be sure to leave before the meeting is finished.
3. Never have anything to say at meetings.
Wait until you leave.
4. When at meetings, vote to do everything.
Then go home and do nothing.
5. The next day after the meeting, always find fault with the officers.
6. Take no part in the organization's affairs.
7. Be sure to sit in the back row so that you can talk it over with your neighbor during the meeting.
8. Take all the organization can give you, but don't give the organization anything in return.
9. Never invite a prospective new member.
10. Talk cooperation, but never cooperate.
11. At every opportunity threaten to resign, and try to get others to resign.
12. If asked to help, always say you don't have time.
13. Never read anything that pertains to the organization.
You may become too enlightened.
14. Never accept an office. It's easier to criticize than to participate.
15. If appointed to a committee, never give any time or service.
16. Don't do any more than you have to, and when others willingly and unselfishly use their abilities to help the cause along, gripe because the organization is run by a clique.
17. Always take sides in misunderstandings between members and be for the one with whom you talked last.
18. While presiding at meetings, express your own opinion before presenting the club business to the members for a vote.
19. Repeat all the unpleasant things about your club to everyone that will listen to you.
20. Always criticize your leadership whenever the opportunity arises.

And Most of All Complain loudly that some one is picking on you if any of the above hit too close to home.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH



KITTY LITTER CAKE RECIPE

A sure fire hit for the next family get together or Birthday party

WANT TO HAVE FUN AT A PARTY? PREPARE THIS RECIPE AND WATCH YOUR FRIENDS FACES !!
***NOTE: THIS CAKE CONTAINS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING THAT IS NOT EDIBLE!!**

CAKE INGREDIENTS

- 1 box spice or German chocolate cake mix
- 1 box of white cake mix
- 1 package white sandwich cookies
- 1 large package vanilla instant pudding mix
- A few drops green food coloring
- 12 small Tootsie Rolls or equivalent

SERVING "DISHERS AND UTENSILS"

- 1 NEW cat-litter box
- 1 NEW cat-litter box liner
- 1 NEW pooper scooper

Prepare and bake cake mixes, according to directions, in any size pan. Prepare pudding and chill.

Crumble cookies in small batches in blender or food processor. Add a few drops of green food coloring to 1 cup of cookie crumbs. Mix with a fork or shake in a jar. Set aside.

When cakes are at room temperature, crumble them into a large bowl. Toss with half of the remaining cookie crumbs and enough pudding to make the mixture moist but not soggy. Place liner in litter box and pour in mixture.

Unwrap 3 Tootsie Rolls and heat in a microwave until soft and pliable. Shape the blunt ends into slightly curved points. Repeat with three more rolls. Bury the rolls decoratively in the cake mixture. Sprinkle remaining white cookie crumbs over the mixture, then scatter green crumbs lightly over top.

Heat 5 more Tootsie Rolls until almost melted. Scrape them on top of the cake and sprinkle with crumbs from the litter box. Heat the remaining Tootsie Roll until pliable and hang it over the edge of the box. Place box on a sheet of newspaper and serve with scooper.

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 when it meets October 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 April 2003 and a subsequent Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket 04-37, in February of this year. The ARRL so far on this round has taken its concerns regarding Amateur Radio and BPL to three of the Commission's five members. In a meeting this 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 for public review 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, it said, "represent the minimum protection" that should be incorporated into the BPL Report and Order prior to Commission adoption.

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

The League argued that a reduction in the radiated emission limit for BPL systems be included in the R&O. The ARRL wants the limit set 30 dB below current Part 15 requirements, which, it says, were established with narrowband point-source radiators in mind. "The record in this proceeding clearly establishes that BPL is not a point-source radiator," the ARRL's letter asserted.

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. Based on past experience with BPL field trials, the ARRL told Adelstein, "widespread BPL deployment at the existing Part 15 radiated emission limit will result in an unmanageable incidence of interference."

Arguing for a reduction in the radiated emission limit, the ARRL said mandatory "notching" of the amateur bands by 30 dB would reduce the probability of interference to amateur stations sufficiently that the remaining interference cases might be resolved on a case-by-case basis. "However," the League added, "such notching would not solve the problem for other radio services."

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."

In addition to Adelstein, ARRL representatives have met so far with Commissioners Kevin J. Martin, and Michael J. Copps. The League hopes to meet with the principal advisors to Chairman Michael K. Powell and Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy before the October 7, 2004 cutoff for ex parte communications in the proceeding.



Technology/Science

Information Supplied by: Frank X. Ryan - KC2JRE

FCC Approves Fiber-Optic Broadband Rules

By JENNIFER C. KERR
Associated Press Writer



WASHINGTON - Federal regulators approved new rules Thursday aimed at making high-speed Internet available to more Americans - but critics complained the move will hinder competition in broadband services and keep prices high. The Federal Communications Commission gave its blessing to a proposal that lets the major regional phone companies build fiber-optic networks to within 500 feet of a customer's home without requiring the companies to share their networks with competitors.

Currently, the former Baby Bell companies don't have to lease their networks for fiber that is installed directly to the home. The new rule extends that regulation to within 500 feet of a residence. BellSouth requested the change so it could build networks to just outside a customer's home and reach more residences at once - rather than having to lay down fiber to each household. In a statement, the company said the decision would bring broadband service to more consumers, more quickly.

Democratic Commissioner Michael Copps voted against the proposal, calling it wrong and dangerous. He said loosening the rules for the major phone companies keeps smaller players from getting into the market. The agency is "returning to the failed and non-competitive policies of the past," Copps said.

Consumer groups agreed.

"The FCC today took our country one giant step closer toward solidifying a two-company domination the local cable and telephone providers - over the consumer Internet market," said Gene Kimmelman, senior policy director for Consumers Union. "Consumers will see their choices diminish and their bills skyrocket."

Separately, the commission voted to set ground rules for the deployment of another type of high-speed Internet access - broadband over power lines, known as BPL.

This technology is still in its infancy, with only a handful of companies offering broadband over electric power lines to fewer than 5,000 customers nationwide. The transmissions, however, can cause interference with ham radio operators who have complained loudly to the FCC. The agency said its rules would limit interference by BPL providers by using devices that would skip frequencies the amateur radio operators use. There are 680,000 ham radio operators in the United States, according to the American Radio Relay League, a national organization of ham operators.

On the Net: Federal Communications Commission: <http://www.fcc.gov>

TWENTY THIRD ANNUAL "ARSENAL CITY RUN" RIDDLED WITH OVERSIGHTS

I'd personally like to CONGRATULATE TARA's Public Service Team for one hell of a performance on Sunday September 26th during the Watervliet Arsenal City Run. Right from the very beginning this race was marred by some pretty serious oversights on behalf of the race officials. However, it was TARA that really made this race what it was! Our public service team had to make many readjust-ments and cover way more assignments than we originally had planned but they got the job done!

Unfortunately, for June, KA2VEK; Tom, KC2FCR and Frankie, W2FPG we were unable to use their services due to the errors of the race officials. It seems as though the race officials made a last minute change of the race course and failed to notify "ALL" parties that are involved in this race. Again, we thank them for showing up on time and being so understanding.

The following participated:

KB2UUC, KB2SPM, KC2BSC, KC2HLC, N2TZQ, KC2HNC, KA2VEK, W2FPG,
KC2FCR and Ed's wife Denise

Great Job!

My2U - "Mr. Bill"

**TARA's Own Dan Bradke, W2AU
at the North Caicos Island
2003 CQDX CW Contest**



Dan Bradke, W2AU does some Tower Climbing At North Caicos Island



Dan is busy at the keyboard during the CQ DX CW Contest

Dan is a member of the ARRL, the [Yankee Clipper Contest Club](#), [Troy Amateur Radio Association](#) and [FISTS](#) and regularly operates during the ARRL Straight Key Night each New Year's Day (UTC). The trip to Turks and Caicos will mark his first DXpedition. His dad, John Bradke, W2GB, says he urged his son apply for the call sign that had once belonged to Paul Wandelt of W2AU balun and antenna fame (Unadilla Radiation Products). The elder Bradke says he met Wandelt a few times in the 1960s and never dreamed he'd have a son who would one day hold the well-known call sign. There's more information on Daniel Bradke under his call sign listing on the [QRZ.com](#) Web site.



**W2AU, KY1V, OH9MM, WA4PGM, OH3RB
At North Caicos Island**

4th Annual F.I.S.T.S. Coast to Coast Contest

Attention all radio amateurs. It's just one and a half weeks away until the 4th annual Fists Coast to Coast contest. This year it's scheduled for October 24th from 0000Z to 2400Z. That's 24 hours of Fists fun waiting for you. Contact as many Fists club stations on as many bands as possible.

This year we have 2 new categories. QRP and mobile.

Full rules are at:

http://www.tomochka.com/k7fff/fnw_c2c04.html Club stations please register by sending an e-mail to fistsc2c@yahoo.com. All radio amateurs are invited to participate. Last year there were 56 club stations participating and nearly 200 logs received.

TARA OFFICERS: 1 YEAR TERMS

President: Bill Eddy, NY2U.....273-9248
Vice President: Karen Smith, KB2UUC...273-6594
Secretary: Marilyn Davis, KB2JZI.....272-0112
Treasurer: Nick Demos, NW2D.....383-3983

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Mac Smith, KB2SPM.....(02-04).....273-6594
Roy Warner N2OWC.....(04-06).....283-8485
Randy Stein, KA2TJZ.....(04-06).....498-7838
David Fritts KC2IBF.....(04-05).....765-5147

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Asst Manager

William "Doc" Kelley, KC2JDW.....235-5063

REPEATER TECHNICAL ADVISORS:

John Pritt, N1JP.....753-6231

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REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:

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RDF COMMITTEE:RDF Manager -

Richard Neimeyer - N2MOA.....489-0799

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TARA WEBMASTERS:

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TARA HF CONTESTING:

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

HF DX & Contest Manager - NY2U

(Just Temp for now!)

TARA VHF/UHF CONTESTING:

Contest Manager - Ray Ginter, N2ZQF

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

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TARA HISTORIAN:

Karen Smith, KB2UUC 273-6594

N2TY-"TROY" NODE

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N2TY-BBS SYSOP:

Tim Roske, AA2WQ ...489-4346

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Gerry Murray, WA2IWW 482-8700

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Randy Stein, KA2TJZ...498-7838

Steve Kopecky, KF2WA 674-4150

Nick Demos, NW2D ...383-3983

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PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES ON THE AIRWAVE'S**

THE TARA NEWS

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P.O. Box 1292

Troy, New York, 12181-1292



Visit us on the Internet

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

Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 19, 2004

7:30 p.m.

**Green Island Municipal
Center**

Intersection of

George St. & Hudson Ave.

Green Island, New York

Ample Parking

Parking Lot on Hudson Ave.

Troy's Full Service Repeaters

145.170/R

449.225/R