

More Than A Club



We're A Family



THE TARA NEWS

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

Volume 13

Issue 10

October 2002

FIRST ANNUAL FALL CHOWDER FEST A GREAT SUCCESS

I'd like to thank each and everyone that attended the first "Fall Chowder Fest" down at the beautiful Watervliet Hudson Shores Park. Although we had a good number of you that didn't show, the event was PERFECT!

For all of you that brought along ALL of the tasty dishes like the Manhattan Chowder, Chili, Gumbo, Baked Goods, Ham & Cheese, Irish Potato Soup, Hot Dogs, Cookies Chips/Snacks, Soda and Plenty of piping hot coffee, I thank you on behalf of TARA. The park that we used was just OUTSTANDING and we owe Watervliet a nice "Thank You" too! This place was extremely clean and very accessible for ALL those that attended.

So my friends, I hope you enjoyed the day as much as I did. And, once again it was a treat to see the young adults attending these events and pitching in like they do, we're lucky to have their help.

Now, it's with great joy that I announce that we'll be doing the "Fall Chowder Fest" again come September 27, 2003!

Hope to see all of you again soon....

73 de NY2U "Mr.Bill"



Letter of Appreciation from Turning Point

Parade Coordinator

This event was held on Sunday, August 4, 2002 in Schuylerville,

Karen:

I write, belatedly, on behalf of the Turning Point parade committee to express our appreciation of the kind assistance provided by you and the association. It is of great importance to be able to rely on an association with good communications.

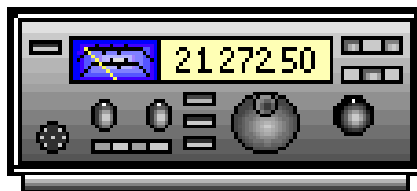
This year was the largest parade yet and mass confusion evolved into an organized line of march due, in large part, to the presence of the Troy Amateur Radio Assn.

Please convey our thanks to those present on parade day.

Sincerely,
Dan Hewitt
Parade Coordinator

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REPEATER ? REMOTE BASE ?

FCC ORDERS CALIFORNIA SYSTEM TO SHUTDOWN

The FCC has ordered a UHF Amateur Radio system in the Los Angeles area shut down until it either obtains coordination or comes up with an acceptable plan to prevent interfering with a coordinated repeater just 10 kHz away. FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth says the owner of the 447.250-MHz system on Mt Disappointment, Steven R. Decho, KE6FX, has complied with the FCC request, which was included in a September 4 Warning Notice.

"For over two years, your Mt Disappointment KE6FX station has been characterized by lack of control and identification problems," Hollingsworth wrote. "The real basis of this matter seems to be that you object to a recent change in spacing standards by the coordinator and do not wish to conform to them." The regional coordinator, the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association (SCRRBA), has told the FCC that the coordination for KE6FX was abandoned. The FCC considers the KE6FX station a repeater, while Decho, who resides in Draper, Utah, calls it "a remote base." As a remote base, he has claimed, KE6FX does not require coordination. But the FCC said Decho did submit outdated coordination documents in his response last year to FCC communications.

In either case, Hollingsworth again pointed out, the KE6FX system is causing interference to the coordinated WA6UZS repeater 10 kHz away. If it's a repeater, Hollingsworth explained, KE6FX is obliged to prevent interference to the WA6UZS repeater under §97.205 of the FC rules. If it's an auxiliary station or a remote base, "the fact remains that it interferes with the WA6UZS repeater," Hollingsworth said.

In previous communications with Decho going back about a year and a half, Hollingsworth among other things cited "reports of dead carriers that last for weeks, a tone that lasted continuously for three weeks, weekends of 2-meter rebroadcasts and a repeating CW identification that lasted for weeks." Over the July 4 holiday this summer, the system re-broadcast other repeater traffic and ignored attempts by WA6UZS repeater personnel to contact Decho, the FCC said.

In August 2001, the FCC said the KE6FX beacon identifier that activated without operational input, the rebroadcasting of other repeater traffic, dead carriers, continuous tones or repetitive CW identifiers "must cease immediately" and normal repeater traffic, if any, must not interfere with WA6UZS.

Green Island - Run for Hunger

The "16th Annual Run for Hunger" is scheduled for November 2nd 2002, 9:00 a.m. at the Church of the Good Shepard, 89 Hudson Avenue, Green Island

This is a special event for TARA because Marilyn, KB2JZI has been one of the top individual fundraisers for the last two years. Her husband Ken, KB2KFB is one of the Co-chairman of the Event.

Monies raised from this event are used to supply the Watervliet and Green Island Food pantries and to assure that the needy residents have a Thanksgiving turkey on their table and if possible a Christmas Ham.

If you can find the time in your busy schedule to help with this event, it would be greatly appreciated.

Contact Karen – KB2UUC at 273-6594 or KB2UUC@N2TY.ORG

PUMPKIN PATROL 2002



The New York State Police are still looking for volunteers for the Pumpkin Patrol. The Patrol is held on 2 nights, Wednesday, Oct. 30th. and Thursday, Oct. 31st. Volunteers can work either one or both evenings. The time frame of the event is usually between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. but may run a little later if the gremlins are active.

If you have any questions on the Pumpkin Patrol or if you want to volunteer to help out, you can call Karen, KB2UUC-273-6594 or KB2UUC@n2ty.org



Happy Fall Y'All!



Are You Ready to
"RUMBLE"

2002 Fall Classic

LET'S Get READY TO RUUUUUUUUMBLE - PSK31 RUMBLE
Fall Classic Style

That's right!! Once again it's that time of the year when PSK31ers & PSK31ets put on the gloves and duke it out during The Annual PSK31 RUMBLE Fall Classic. Come join us as we match our skills against some of the best PSK31 Digital Mode competitors the world has to offer.

The TARA Sponsored PSK31 RUMBLE is the Worlds First PSK31 contest. Since then, the contest receives worldwide recognition and draws competitors from all corners of the earth.

The Date: October 5, 2002

The Time: 00:00z - 24:00z

Individual, SWL & Teams are welcome to participate, it's fun to do and a great way to hone your digital contesting skills. All levels of competitors are welcome, whether your a occasional contestester or a serious diehard, the RUMBLE is a perfect opportunity for you to "Catch The PSK31 Contesting Bug" or to launch a serious assault at winning. This is only my second year participating, this past Spring I improved to eleventh. Further information can be found at

www.qsl.net/wm2u/rumble.html

Hope to see you there,
73 de KC2HNC – Ed Eades



21st Arsenal City Run - Another Great Event

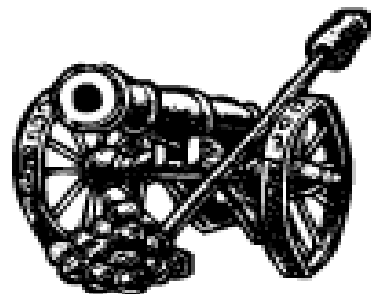
On Sunday, September 21, Watervliet held its 21st. Arsenal City Run. The morning started out with rain and didn't look to good. But by the time the "Kiddie Fun Run" started the weather cleared up. Between the 3 races there were over 600 participants out there running.

I want to thank all of those volunteers who came out in the rain to help with the run.

Ed KC2HNC
Steve KF2WA
Joe KC2HLC
Dave KC2IBF

Mike KB2LTV
Duffy N2TZQ
Sue KC2IBI
Mac KB2SPM

Everyone did a great job helping and everything ran smoothly.
Thanks de Karen KB2UUC





A. Prose Walker, W4BW

Silent Key



Former FCC official A. Prose Walker, W4BW, the man some consider the godfather of the so-called "WARC bands"--30, 17 and 12 meters—died August 8 following a brief illness. He was 92. Word of his death reached ARRL Headquarters this month.

Walker, who headed the FCC Amateur and Citizens Division from 1971 until 1975, made the initial proposal for three new amateur allocations at 10, 18 and 24 MHz during an International Amateur Radio Club (4U1ITU) meeting in Geneva in 1972. Later, he organized and chaired the US preparatory committee for the Amateur Service--the Advisory Committee of Amateur Radio--which took the initial steps to turn the idea into reality at the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference. The committee also included former ARRL General Manager Richard L. Baldwin, W1RU, who said this week that he was greatly saddened to learn of Walker's passing.

"One of my fondest memories of WARC 79 was the pleasure and the challenge of working with Prose in preparing for that conference," Baldwin said. "He was a stalwart supporter of the Amateur Service, and few amateurs realize how very much they owe to him."

Walker's most recent recognition came at Dayton Hamvention 2000, when he was recognized with a special achievement award, an honor his daughter, Helen Herman, said he coveted among many other more prestigious awards. The award recognized his work in obtaining the new amateur allocations more than two decades earlier.

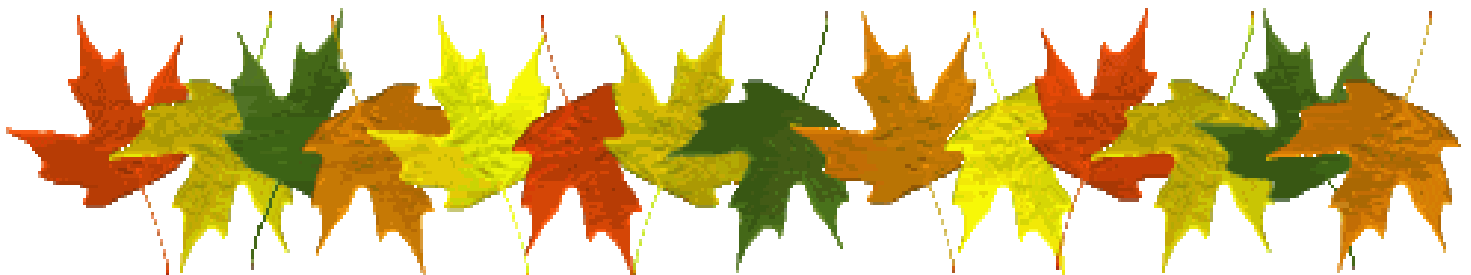
An ARRL Life Member and a licensee since the 1920s, Walker was an enthusiastic amateur who remained quite active on the air until shortly before his death. Only a few months before he died, he bought a state-of-the-art transceiver and reveled in becoming acquainted with its many features. Walker's favorite operating mode was CW, and he was a frequent visitor on the bands he'd help create.

A native of Ohio, Walker's career took a number of turns, including a stint as a high school teacher, but his primary contributions were in the fields of communications and engineering. He did two tours with the FCC and also worked for the National Association of Broadcasters and Collins Radio Company.

During his career, Walker earned a global reputation for participation and leadership within the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). He was the leading member of the US delegation at more than 20 international conferences.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, knew Walker and occasionally encountered him on the air. "The careers of some radio amateurs are so long and so rich that they bridge generations," Sumner said. "Prose was among these."

Walker retired to Florida, but after his wife Ellanie died in 1999, he moved to Rochester, New York, to be near his daughter, Helen. A memorial service will be held later this year.



Southern Living COOK-OFF 2002



**\$ 100,000 Winner of the
Southern Living Cook-off 2002**

GRAND PRIZE WINNER

Pecan Pie Cheesecake

Makes 16 servings

Prep: 15 min., Bake: 50 min., Stand: 1 hr., Chill: 8 hrs.

- 1 (2-pound, 4-ounce) package frozen MRS. SMITH'S Special Recipe Southern Pecan Pie
- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup DOMINO Granulated Sugar
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1/4 teaspoon McCORMICK Gourmet Collection Saigon Cinnamon
- 2 (8-ounce) packages PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese, softened
- 2 large eggs
- 2/3 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup half-and-half
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup DOMINO 10-X Confectioners Sugar
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 16 pecan halves

Preheat oven to 325°. Thaw pecan pie according to package directions. Cut evenly into 20 thin slices, keeping wedges intact, and set aside.

Stir together cracker crumbs and next 3 ingredients; press mixture onto bottom and 1 1/2-inches up sides of a 10-inch springform pan.

Arrange 10 pecan pie wedges in a spoke design in prepared pan, placing 1 cut side of each wedge on crust with narrow end towards center of pan. Reserve remaining pecan pie wedges for another use.

Beat cream cheese until smooth; add eggs, 1 at a time, beating until blended after each addition. Add sour cream, half-and-half, and vanilla; beat until blended. Fold in confectioners sugar and flour. Carefully pour cream cheese mixture evenly over pecan pie wedges in pan, making sure wedges remain in place. Arrange pecan halves evenly around edge. Bake at 325° for 50 minutes. Turn off oven, and let cheesecake stand in oven 1 hour. Remove to a wire rack, and let cool completely. Chill at least 8 hours or overnight before serving.

Ginnie Prater - Calhoun, Georgia

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THE ARRL CONTEST BRANCH RELEASES NEWLY DESIGNED CONTEST CERTIFICATES

The ARRL Contest Branch has released newly designed certificates for various ARRL-sponsored contests. The new certificate designs will be used for all contests starting with those issued to qualifying participants in the December 2001 ARRL 160-Meter Contest.

"They replace a design that has been in use by the ARRL for at least the past 20 years," ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, said of the new designs. He explains that part of the redesign involved reformatting the certificates from a "landscape" (horizontal) to a "portrait" (vertical) layout.

The ARRL November Sweepstakes certificate features an attractive red, white and blue design and incorporates the popular outline map of the US and Canada that has been appearing on Sweepstakes plaques. Certificates for other HF events are highlighted by the "global" icon now found on the International DX Contest plaques.

The VHF/UHF/Microwave contest certificates incorporate a moonbounce dish antenna as a background motif. While the criteria for winning an award vary among the various operating events, certificates normally go to the top-finishing station in each category from each ARRL/RAC section and DXCC entity. "We are waiting for the new certificates to arrive back from the printer's," Henderson said. "As soon as we have them in hand, we will begin printing and mailing the backlog of certificates."

CC&R Bill HR4720 Attracts additional Co-sponsors



**HR 4720 Sponsor
Rep. Steve Israel
of New York**

NEWINGTON, CT, September 13, 2002 -- Five more cosponsors now have signed aboard HR 4720, the bill in Congress aimed at providing relief to amateurs faced with private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--CC&Rs--in erecting antennas. The list is now up to 23 members of the US House of Representatives who have agreed to cosponsor the measure. It includes two amateurs--Oregon Republican Greg Walden, WB7OCE--one of the two original cosponsors of HR 4720 with Texas Republican Pete Sessions--and Arkansas Democrat Mike Ross, WD5DVR. Walden and Ross are believed to be the only Amateur Radio licensees in the US House of Representatives. Arkansas Section Manager Bob Ideker, WB5VUH, says he lobbied Ross to sign onto the bill after running into him while waiting for a plane in Little Rock.



**HR 4720 Co-sponsor
Rep. Mike McNulty
of New York**

He credits the Fort Smith Amateur Radio Club with influencing Arkansas Republican John Boozman, to sign onto the bill as a cosponsor. Also new to the list are representatives Constance Morella (R-MD), Mike McIntyre (D-NC), Michael McNulty (D-NY), and Neil Abercrombie (D-HI). New York Democrat Steve Israel introduced HR 4720--the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act"--on May 14. The measure would require private land-use regulators--such as homeowners' associations--to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities. The list of HR 4720 cosponsors also includes Representatives JD Hayworth (R-AZ), Patrick Tiberi (R-OH), Patsy Mink (D-HI), Ken Calvert (R-CA), Rick Boucher (D-VA), Joseph Hoeffel (D-PA), John Duncan Jr (R-TN), Dennis Moore (D-KS), Charles Stenholm (D-TX), David Price (D-NC), Bob Schaffer (R-CO), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Bart Gordon (D-TN), Charles Taylor (R-NC), and Ralph Hall (D-TX)

Congressman Michael McNulty (D-NY), signed on to co-sponsor both HR 4720 and HR 817, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act, a bill to insure the availability of spectrum to amateur radio operators, after a discussion with Troy Amateur Radio Association, Board member, Ken Davis -- KB2KFV. Davis is also a Board member of the East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association, a member of the Albany Amateur Radio Association and Vice President of Rensselaer County A.R.E.S.

Visit the US House of Representatives Write Your Representative Service Web page, www.house.gov/writerep for information on how to contact your representative. The ARRL requests those writing or e-mailing members of Congress--whether or not they are supporting this legislation--to copy ARRL on their correspondence--via e-mail to ccr-bill@arrl.org or via US Mail to CC&R Bill, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

Correspondents should include the bill number, HR 4720, as well as their name and address on all correspondence. For more information, visit the HR 4720, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications



**AMATEUR RADIO
APPRECIATES THE EFFORTS OF
OUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**



QSL's in the Computer Age

By Bob Inouye, WA7S (ex-WA3DPL)
April 1, 1999

For decades, bulk-printed QSLs have been used to send hard-copy confirmation of QSOs. But taking advantage of the PC and Internet will open up whole new dimensions in custom QSLing! It also eliminates a lot of headaches if you change call signs.

Your home computer makes it easy to create a one-time personal QSL after each contact. By drawing on the capabilities of modern word processors, pulling artwork from the Internet, and adding your own scanned photos, the end result will be a special QSL that's sure to draw attention. If you log tends toward foreign DX, you can even translate your QSL messages with one of the automatic translators found on the Web. The end product can be zipped out as an e-mail attachment for instant--and postage-free--delivery. (Keep in mind, however, that DXCC and many other awards do not yet accept electronic QSL cards as valid confirmations.--Ed) In my own case, using my PC to make individualized QSLs meant I never skipped a beat in my QSLing when I recently obtained the call sign WA7S via the vanity call sign program.

The key to this process is putting together a "template" (essentially an automated style sheet) using word-processing software such as *Microsoft Word*. Once you've made up the template, it's a simple process to fill out that form after each QSO, and print the resulting QSL for mailing.



ARRL CONTEST BRANCH ANNOUNCES REDESIGNED CERTIFICATES

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VINTAGE 1AW QSL BRINGS RECORD PRICE

We're not certain if ARRL co-founder and first president Hiram Percy Maxim would have been proud or surprised to know that one of his old 1AW QSL's apparently set a price record for the sale of a single QSL card. A 1923-vintage HPM 1AW card recently went for \$2125 on the eBay auction site. <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=2131624991>. Neither the seller nor the buyer have been identified, but ARRL member Paul Cassel, VE3SY, of Petersburg, Ontario, Canada, acted as the sale agent and posted the card on the auction site. "The winning bidder is in California and is a very serious QSL collector," he said after the auction closed. Cassel pledged to donate half of his sale commission to the W1AW Endowment Fund. <http://www.arrl.org/endoww1aw.html>. The 1AW card appears to verify reception of 9CTR on a wavelength of 193 meters rather than a two-way contact. "You were calling another 9," Maxim wrote in the card's "Remarks" section. Although the card proclaims "American Radio Relay League Station 1AW" across the top, the now-famous call sign was Maxim's own personal call sign at the time, not the League's, and Maxim operated from his home on Hartford. Until the 1AW card sale, Cassel says the highest known price paid for a single QSL card was more than \$1100 for an AC4YN QSL from the Tibet DXpedition of Sir Evan Nepean, G5YN, who died last March at age 92.



ARRL OFFICIALS UPBEAT ABOUT REACHING 5-MHZ COMPROMISE

ARRL RESPONDS TO IMPLIED 222-225 MHZ THREAT

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, says they're optimistic about reaching a resolution to issues that could otherwise block plans for a new 5 MHz band. Until surprise opposition surfaced from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the FCC appeared to have put ARRL's request for a new, domestic-only, secondary amateur allocation at 60 meters on the fast track.

In an eleventh-hour move a month ago, the NTIA recommended in a letter to the FCC--sent after the comment deadline--that the Commission not go forward with a proposal for an Amateur Radio allocation at 5250 to 5400 kHz. The NTIA regulates radio spectrum allocated to the federal government. "We are working together with the Federal agencies involved toward a solution of the impasse raised by the NTIA letter," Imlay said after he and Haynie attended a series of meetings September 19 in Washington, DC.

Acting NTIA Associate Administrator for Spectrum Management Fredrick R. Wentland had said in an August 21 letter that critical federal agencies, including the Department of Justice, the US Coast Guard and the Department of Defense, were making extensive use of 5 MHz frequencies. He worried that the 5 MHz proposal the FCC put forth last May at the ARRL's request "does not adequately provide for protection from harmful interference to these critical government operations."

After initially huddling this week with NTIA and FCC officials and staff members, Haynie and Imlay met face-to-face with representatives of the agencies involved to share mutual concerns. "They are willing to work with us," Haynie said. "Chris and I left feeling a whole lot better." Haynie said hammering out some differences will involve some further meetings--including one with the US Navy--but that he and Imlay were feeling much more positive about the situation. "I feel confident we'll get something," Haynie said. "I don't think we'll get everything we want, but it's certainly a start, and it's a lot better than what it was this time last week."

One difficulty in the negotiations is that some of the information on the government's use of the 5-MHz frequencies involved is classified. "We were given some hints about the sensitivity and the seriousness of some of the activity that's going on," Haynie said, "and we fully appreciate that now--more so than before--because we just didn't, and couldn't, know. The important thing is that we have established a good working relationship with the Justice Department and the Coast Guard."

Imlay said the discussions tended to center on power restrictions and frequencies but emphasized that no decisions were reached. The ARRL proposal called for a 150-kHz wide band and the full legal power limit. Imlay hinted, however, that perhaps a smaller band than the one requested coupled with some power output limitations, was a real possibility. The ARRL has called the 5 MHz allocation "an urgent priority of the Amateur Service" and has asked that the proceeding to grant it be expedited. Until the latest snafu, the FCC had been expected by early next year to issue a Report and Order on proposals for the 5-MHz band, a new low-frequency allocation in the vicinity of 136 kHz and primary Amateur and Amateur-Satellite status at 2400 to 2402 MHz.

The ARRL has taken issue with a suggestion made in a non-Amateur Radio-related FCC proceeding to turn the 222-225 MHz amateur allocation over to commercial interests. In reply comments filed this month, the League urged the FCC to "do nothing" with the proposal of Data Comlink (DCL), a consortium of 20 electrical coops and allied companies.

"ARRL presumes that the proposal by DCL for reallocation of the 222-225 MHz band will not be seriously evaluated by the FCC, as it is well outside the scope of this proceeding," the League said in its September 5 filing with the FCC. Until DCL raised the 222-225 MHz suggestion last month in its own comments in WT Docket 02-224, the ARRL had remained silent in the proceeding. DCL claimed in its comments that the amateur allocation at 222-225 MHz "is being underutilized" and that the band "would be much better utilized for commercial use." ARRL asserted that the band, far from being underused, "remains a critical VHF allocation" for amateurs.

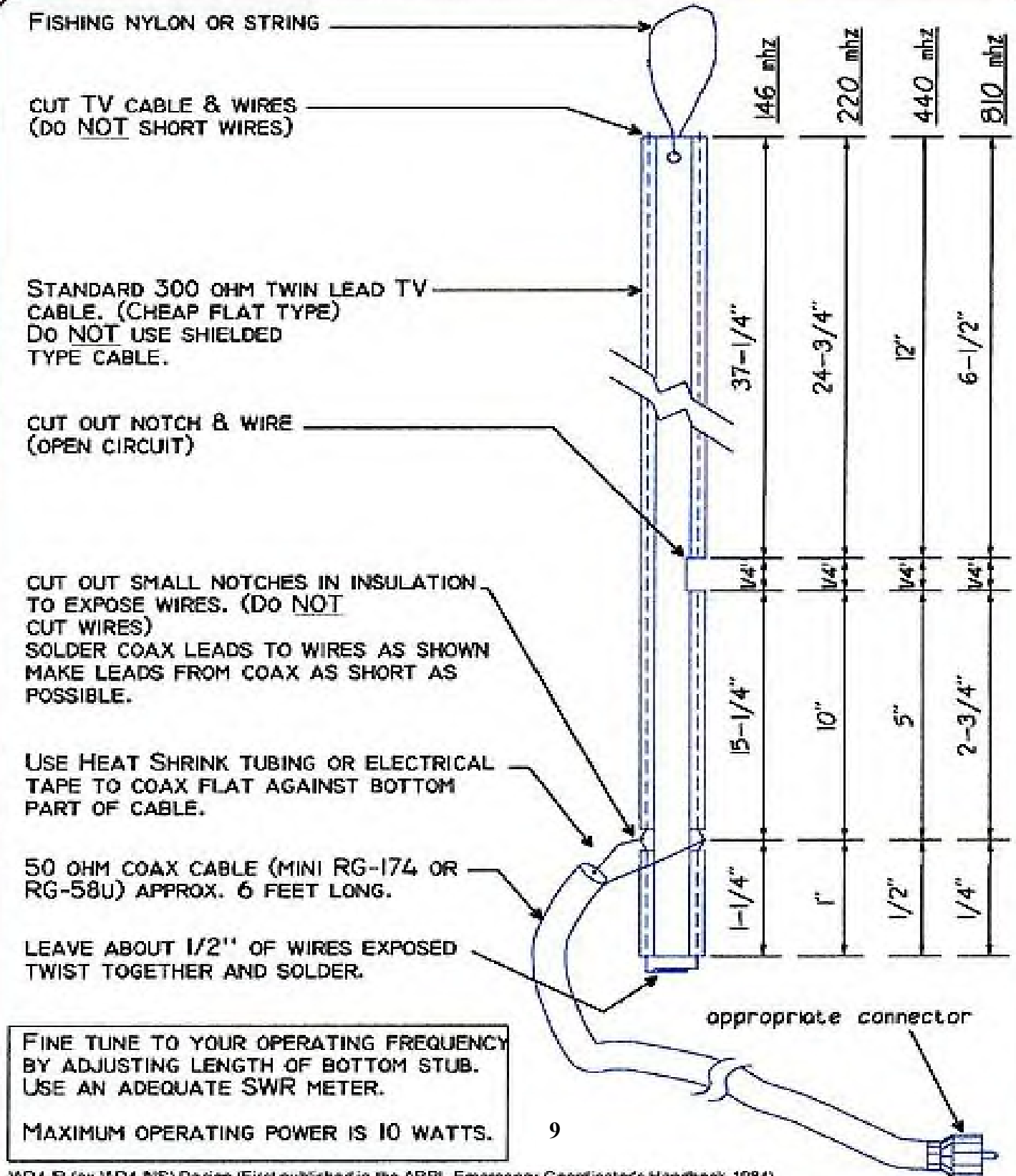
The League noted that the ARRL 2002 Repeater Directory--albeit not a comprehensive listing--lists 1690 repeaters throughout the US, indicating an even larger number of individual users. "Indeed the number of individual amateurs using this band has increased steadily since 1989, when the amateur allocation at 220-225 was reduced by 40 percent," the ARRL said, "and now much commercially manufactured equipment is available to amateurs." DCL had claimed that "only handfuls [sic] of individuals in the Amateur Radio Service even use this spectrum, while hundreds of thousands of potential commercial users wait with no alternatives."

The League characterized as "invalid" DCL's arguments in favor of reallocating 222-225 MHz from the Amateur Radio Service and noted that the FCC earlier this year had set aside an additional 8 MHz of spectrum for Land Mobile Service operations. The League's reply comments in the DCL proceeding are on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt02-224/arrl-comments.html>>.

The ARRL has not commented in an unrelated Petition for Reconsideration filed by Warren C. Havens on behalf of himself and Telesaurus Holdings GB LLC, in which he holds a majority interest. Filing last month under PR Docket 92-257 and RM-9664, Havens is seeking to have the FCC reconsider its decision to auction certain AMTS spectrum and instead adopt his "Advanced Technology Land Infrastructure and Safety Service" (ATLIS) proposal. Under that plan, Havens wants to see 222 to 225 MHz reallocated from amateur to public safety use. His ATLIS plan proposes to share 902-928 MHz on which amateurs are secondary.



An Easy Emergency Antenna



WD4JR (ex WD4JNS) Design (First published in the ARRL Emergency Coordinator's Handbook 1984)
Updated 1995, 2000

EMERGENCY J-POLE ANTENNA

WD4JR

TARA OFFICERS: 1 YEAR TERMS

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 Secretary: Marilyn Davis, KB2JZI.....272-0112
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 Jack Culliton, N2LBZ.....(01-03).....271-6763
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N2TY-BBS SYSOP:

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

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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/](http://www.n2ty.org/)

Next Meeting

Tuesday October 15, 2002

7:30 p.m.

***Green Island Municipal
 Center***

Intersection of

Hudson Avenue & George Street

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

Parking Lot on Hudson Avenue

Troy's Full Service Repeaters

145.170/R

444.225/R